



Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land at Pump Farm / Bloors Farm, Lower Rainham, Kent.

January 2019

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land at Pump Farm / Bloors Farm, Lower Rainham, Kent.

National Grid Reference TQ 80870 67550



Report for A C Goatham and Son

Date of Report: 3rd January 2019

SWAT ARCHAEOLOGY

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Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of Land at Pump Farm/Bloors Farm, Lower Rainham, Kent.

Summary

SWAT Archaeology has been commissioned by A C Goatham and Son to prepare an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) of land at Pump Farm/Bloors Farm, Lower Rainham, Kent.

This Desk Based Assessment is intended to explore and disseminate the known and potential heritage resource within the site and the surrounding area, and to assess the likely impacts of the development proposals on this resource. Based on this data the potential for archaeological sites either on or in the near vicinity of the proposed development can be summarized as:

- Prehistoric: **high**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low/moderate**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **high**
- Modern: **low**

The area of Lower Rainham is area of important archaeological interest relating to the prehistoric period having been occupied for millennia. Palaeolithic finds have been found all along the north Kent coast and the area of the PDA is no exception with Palaeolithic and Neolithic finds located around the eastern and western half. Unfortunately for many finds the exact location is not known as they were discovered in antiquity and aside from an evaluation of the Twydall chalk pit, there has been little opportunity for archaeological exploration in the area of the PDA. In addition to the prehistoric period, we also know that there was Roman activity in the area with nearby cemeteries east of the PDA at Otterham and a possible Roman cremation in the area of the PDA. Anglo-Saxon evidence has been found below a house on the Lower Rainham Road, attesting to the fact that that the area continued to be utilised into the Medieval period and the listed buildings from the Medieval and Post Medieval period along the Lower Rainham Road and Lower Twydall Lane confirms this and as a result the PDA is

bordered by two Conservations Areas, one to the north and one to the west. Due to the high number of designated heritage assets in the area, some of which will have intervisibility with the PDA, a separate Heritage Statement Report is recommended. In addition, due to the high potential for Palaeolithic remains, a separate Palaeolithic desk-based assessment has been produced.

The PDA encompasses a large area of some 50 hectares, of which the majority has been agricultural land of arable fields or orchards for hundreds of years and the number of surrounding farmsteads confirms this agricultural landscape as well as the PDA being in an area known as the North Kent Fruit belt. Although the map regression shows that at a few locations within the PDA, there have been residential properties and other small structures of unknown purpose that have been demolished and the footprint of these may still survive. It is known that this area of north Kent has been prevalent with brickearth extraction and chalk quarrying, although it is not clear whether any part of the PDA has been subject to this. The use of the PDA for residential housing will require foundations and as a consequence the proposed development will have a high impact on any potential archaeology. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company (SWAT) was commissioned by A C Goatham and Son (the 'Client'), to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of the proposed development area (PDA) of land at Pump Farm/Bloors Farm, Lower Rainham, Kent centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 80870 67550 (Fig 1).

1.2 The Site

- 1.2.1 Rainham is situated on the dip slope of the North Downs close to the Medway Gap where it breaks to descend into the River Medway. The town is crossed by three key thoroughfares on a broadly east/west axis. The M2 at the southern boundary of the town circa 4km south from the PDA, the A2, 'Watling Street' being the route of the old Roman Road from London to Canterbury, circa 1km

south from the PDA and then the Lower Rainham Road which runs close to the southern bank of the River Medway. In addition, the railway also on the same axis passes through the centre of the town. London is 40 miles west and the centre of Rainham, located at the junction of Watling Street and Station road is 1km to the south east. The proposed site sits at an average 20m. The northern most part of the PDA by the Lower Rainham Road is 7m AOD with the land rising to circa 30m AOD at the southern boundary which is bordered by the railway line.

1.2.2 The site consists predominantly of orchards. The eastern half has a bridleway passing through from Pump Lane to Bloors Lane and the PDA is predominately surrounded by hedgerows or mature trees. The north eastern corner of the eastern half borders the ribbon of residential houses along the south side of the Lower Rainham Road the eastern Boundary borders Bloors Lane. The bottom south east corner skirts around an area of allotments. The PDA is effectively dissected by Pump Lane with residential housing located at the top of Pump Lane and at the site of the farmstead of Pump Farm of which the farmhouse only remains and there is now a residential development on the farmstead called Russetts. The western boundary reaches as far as the residential housing on Lower Twydall Lane in the south western corner and Lower Twydall's disused and later filled chalk pit (Fig. 1).

1.2.3 The British Geological Society Maps (1:50,000) shows that the local geology at the PDA is mixed. Of the bedrock, there are two pockets of Thanet Formation - Sand silt and clay surrounded by Seaford Chalk Formation. In addition, on parts of the northern area of the site, there are superficial deposits of Head – Clay, silt, sand and gravel.

Geotechnical Information

1.2.4 There is no known geotechnical information.

1.3 The Proposed Development

1.3.1 The site is a large area of land comprising of circa 50 hectares, south of the Lower Rainham Road and north of the railway. The proposal is for the redevelopment of land off Pump Lane with a provision of up to 1,275 residential units, a local centre,

an 80 bed care home and 60 bed extra care facility, a two form entry primary school with appropriate landscaping and access (Fig. 2).

1.4 Project Constraints

- 1.4.1 No constraints were associated with this project.

1.5 Scope of Document

- 1.5.1 This assessment was requested by the Client in order to determine, as far as is possible from existing information, the nature, extent and significance of the Historic Environment and to assess the potential impact of development on Heritage Assets. The assessment forms part of the initial stages of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist with decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

2 PLANNING BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 National legislation and guidance relating to the protection of, and proposed development on or near, important archaeological sites or historical buildings within planning regulations is defined under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. In addition, local authorities are responsible for the protection of the historic environment within the planning system and ensure that a Heritage Asset is protected to enable it to be passed on to future generations.
- 2.1.2 Statutory protection is also provided to certain classes of designated heritage assets under the following legislation:
- Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990;
 - Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; and
 - Hedgerow Regulations (statutory Instrument No. 1160) 1997
 - Treasures Act 1996

- Burial Act 1857.

2.2 National Planning Policy Framework

2.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's core principles in relation to planning and the historic environment and is covered in section 16, paragraphs 185-202. These principles are designed to underpin the planning and decision-making process to ensure that Local Planning Authorities (LPA), developers and owners of heritage assets adopt a consistent approach to the conservation of the Historic Environment.

2.2.2 The Historic Environment, as defined in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2018): Annex 2, comprises:

‘all aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.’

2.2.3 NPPF Annex 2 defines a Heritage Asset as:

‘a building monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage assets include designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)’.

2.2.4 Paragraph 189 of the NPPF states that:

‘In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting.’

2.2.5 Paragraph 190 of the NPPF states that:

‘The LPA should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal.’

2.2.6 The NPPF further provides definitions of terms which relate to the historic environment in order to clarify the policy guidance given. For the purposes of this report, the following are important to note:

- **Significance.** The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- **Setting.** The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

2.2.7 The NPPF is supported by the Planning Policy Guidance, which includes Conservation Principles, Policy and Guidance (2008) as well as Good Practice Advice in Planning Notes 1 to 3, all issued by Historic England.

2.3 Local Policies

2.3.1 Medway Council has a Local Plan adopted in 2003, retained in 2007. The plan has a number of policies relevant to archaeology:

- POLICY BNE20: SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS
- POLICY BNE21: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

2.3.2 These policies are covered in greater detail below:

POLICY BNE20: SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS

2.3.3 Development affecting scheduled ancient monuments or other nationally important sites will not be permitted if it would: (i) damaged or destroy such sites; or (ii) be detrimental to their setting.

POLICY BNE21: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

2.3.4 Development affecting potentially important archaeological sites will not be permitted unless:

- (i) The developer, after consultation with the Archaeological Officer, has arranged for an archaeological field evaluation to be carried out by an approved archaeological body before any decision on the planning application is made; and
- (ii) It would not lead to the damage or destruction of important archaeological remains. There will be a preference for the preservation of important archaeological remains in situ.
- (iii) Where development would be damaging to archaeological remains, sufficient time and resources are made available for an appropriate archaeological investigation undertaken by an approved archaeological body. Such investigations should be in advance of development and in accordance with a specification and programme of work approved by the Council. Resources should also be made available for the publication of the results of the investigation.

Heritage Asset Review (November 2017)

- 2.3.5 Medway Brough Council has produced a review focussing on its Heritage assets. There is a short section on Rainham which quotes the following:

'Positioned on the fringe of the urban area, Rainham is subject to a great deal of development pressure due to the current demand for housing in the area. Pressure to develop agricultural land is intense and should be resisted in all but the most appropriate instances to ensure that the agricultural character that defines Rainham's heritage is preserved.'

Strategic Land Availability Assessment 2018 (SLAA)

- 2.3.6 This demonstrates the availability of potential development sites. Whilst the SLAA indicates the Council's initial assessment as to whether a site is free of constraints and likely to come forward for development, it does not allocate development sites or grant planning permission. As such the SLAA does not predetermine the Council's future assessment of sites through the local plan and development

management processes. 99 residential sites were deemed to be suitable, available and achievable for development. Those relating to the PDA are shown in Fig. 21.

- 2.3.7 Land between Pump Lane and Bloors Lane was reviewed (SLAA Ref 750) and this area was not deemed suitable given distance from services and facilities and potential landscape impact.
- 2.3.8 South of Lower Rainham Road, west of Pump Lane (SLAA ref: 1061) was also not included due to the impact on agricultural land, landscape heritage and isolation from local services and facilities.

Local Planning Guidance

- 2.3.9 The Kent Design Guide, 2008. Prepared by the Kent Design Group, it provides the criteria necessary for assessing planning applications. Helps building designers, engineers, planners and developers achieve high standards of design and construction. It is adopted by the Council as a Supplementary Planning Document.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This Desk-Based Assessment was commissioned by A C Goatham and Son to support a planning application. This assessment has been prepared in accordance with guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (see below) and in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Good Practice Advice notes 1, 2 and 3, which now supersede the PPS 5 Practice Guide, which has been withdrawn by the Government.
- 3.1.2 This Desk-Based Assessment therefore forms the initial stage of the archaeological investigation and is intended to inform and assist in decisions regarding archaeological mitigation for the proposed development and associated planning applications.

3.2 Desk-Based Assessment – Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2017)

3.2.1 This desktop study has been produced in line with archaeological standards, as defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014, revised 2017). A desktop, or desk-based assessment, is defined as being:

‘Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of ClfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so) and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.’

(2017:4)

3.2.2 The purpose of the desk-based assessment is, therefore, an assessment that provides a contextual archaeological record, in order to provide:

- *an assessment of the potential for heritage assets to survive within the area of study*
- *an assessment of the significance of the known or predicted heritage assets considering, in England, their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests*
- *strategies for further evaluation whether or not intrusive, where the nature, extent or significance of the resource is not sufficiently well defined*
- *an assessment of the impact of proposed development or other land use changes on the significance of the heritage assets and their settings*
- *strategies to conserve the significance of heritage assets, and their settings*

- *design strategies to ensure new development makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and local place-shaping*
- *proposals for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research, whether undertaken in response to a threat or not.*

CIFA (2017:4)

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The methodology employed during this assessment has been based upon relevant professional guidance including the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (CIFA, 2017).

4.2 Sources

- 4.2.1 A number of publicly accessible sources were consulted prior to the preparation of this document.

Archaeological databases

- 4.2.2 Although it is recognised that national databases are an appropriate resource for this particular type of assessment, the local Historic Environmental Record held at Kent County Council (KCCHER) contains sufficient data to provide an accurate insight into catalogued sites and finds within both the proposed development area and the surrounding landscape.
- 4.2.3 The National Heritage List for England (NHLE), which is the only official and up to date database of all nationally designated heritage assets and is the preferred archive for a comprehensive HER search.
- 4.2.4 The Archaeology Data Service Online Catalogue (ADS) was also used. The search was carried out within a 500m radius of the proposed development site and relevant HER data is included in the report. The Portable Antiquities Scheme Database (PAS) was also searched as an additional source as the information contained within is not always transferred to the local HER.

Cartographic and Pictorial Documents

- 4.2.5 A full map regression exercise has been incorporated within this assessment. Research was carried out using resources offered by the Kent County Council, the internet, Ordnance Survey and the Kent Archaeological Society. A full listing of bibliographic and cartographic documents used in this study is provided in Section 10.

Aerial photographs

- 4.2.6 The study of the collection of aerial photographs held by Google Earth was undertaken (Plates 1-10).

Secondary and Statutory Resources

- 4.2.7 Secondary and statutory sources, such as regional and periodic archaeological studies, archaeological reports associated with development control, landscape studies, dissertations and research frameworks are considered appropriate to this type of study and have been included within this assessment.

Walkover Survey

- 4.2.8 The Site is visited for a walkover survey. This is for the purpose of:
- Identifying any historic landscape features not shown on maps.
 - Conducting a rapid survey for archaeological features.
 - Making a note of any surface scatters of archaeological material.
 - Identifying constraints or areas of disturbance that may affect archaeological investigation.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 This section of the assessment will focus on the archaeological and historical development of this area, placing it within a local context. Each period classification will provide a brief introduction to the wider landscape. Due to the large site, a 1000m radius assessment area from the very centre of the PDA has

been used to provide a record of the archaeological sites, monuments and records within the site's immediate vicinity. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Registered or Historic Parks and Gardens, Protected Military Remains or NMP Cropmarks in the search area. Time scales for archaeological periods represented in the report are listed in Table 1.

Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	c. 500,000 BC – c.10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	c.10,000 BC – c. 4,300 BC
	Neolithic	c. 4,300 BC – c. 2,300 BC
	Bronze Age	c. 2,300 BC – c. 600 BC
	Iron Age	c. 600 BC – c. AD 43
Romano-British		c. AD 43 – c. AD 410
Anglo-Saxon		AD 410 – AD 1066
Medieval		AD 1066 – AD 1485
Post-medieval		AD 1485 – AD 1900
Modern		AD 1901 – present day
Table 1: Classification of Archaeological periods		

5.1.2 The Kent HER records within the 1000m assessment area relate to the PDA's position in The Lower Rainham orchard farming area, which is also a conservation area and has a large number of Listed Buildings from the Medieval and Post Medieval period and farmsteads. Many of the records relate to finds of unknown location, predominately from the prehistoric period. For the purpose of this assessment we have not included records relating to the maritime wrecks located on the foreshore. The table in Figure 22 details all the finds, features and buildings within the assessment area. All radius' have been taken from the relevant nearest PDA boundary line.

5.2 Designated Heritage Assets

- 5.2.1 One of the tasks of the site visit was aimed to identify any designated heritage assets within the wider context of the PDA in accordance with The Setting of Heritage Assets – English Heritage Guidance (English Heritage 2011).
- 5.2.2 This guidance states that “setting embraces all of the surroundings (land, sea, structures, features and skyline) from which the heritage asset can be

experienced or that can be experienced from or with the asset” (The Setting of Heritage Assets, English Heritage 2011).

5.2.3 There are 13 listed heritage assets within the assessment area, all Grade II listed with the exception of Bloors Place, which is Grade II*. Five of the listed heritage assets directly adjoin the boundary of the PDA, York Farmhouse, Bloors Place’s outbuildings, Little London Farmhouse, Pump Farmhouse and Chapel House. The setting of Pump Farmhouse has been altered in recent years due to the building of the residential development of Russetts in what was the farmstead area. For the others there is little intervisibility with the PDA due to vegetation on the boundary. However, the boundary around Chapel House is lower than elsewhere and there would be intervisibility with the PDA from the upper storey. Bloors Place and garden walls, The old House, and No. 797, 499 and 501 are within 100m of the PDA, whilst Twydall Barn, Manor House and Manor Barn are circa 200m from the PDA. Black House is circa 350m from the PDA. Given the number of listed houses so close to the PDA, it is recommended that a Heritage Statement report is undertaken.

Table 1 Designated Heritage Assets

TQ 86 NW 1151	Medieval	Chapel House, Pump Lane (west side). Grade II listed (1259635). House, now two. Mid-late 15th century, altered early-mid 16th century, altered early 20th century.
TQ 86 NW 1147	Medieval	Pump Farmhouse, Pump Lane. Grade II listed (1259637). Farmhouse. Late C18, extended and remodelled early C20.
TQ 86 NW 1147	Medieval	Nos.497, 499 AND 501, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1259732). House, later shop, now 3 houses. Late C15, remodelled C17; later rear ranges; refenestrated and altered mid-late C19.
TQ 86 NW 1156	Medieval	The Old House, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1267776). House. C15, altered late C16. Timber-framed with plaster infill, limestone rubble and brick, with a brick ridge stack and tiled hipped roof with right-hand cross wing.
TQ 86 NW 200	Post Medieval	Black House, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1267773). Farmhouse, worker’s cottage, converted and derelict at time of survey. Early-mid 17th century with mid-19th century windows. Timber-frame clad in weatherboarding with brick end wall, and corrugated-iron roof hipped to west end.

TQ 86 NW 1174	Medieval	Little London Farmhouse, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259706). House. Late C15-early C16, altered C17, C19 rear range. Timber-frame on a flint plinth, partly brick, render and weatherboard, brick left-hand external gable and rear lateral stacks, with a tiled roof.
TQ 86 NW 1153	Medieval to Post Medieval	Manor Barn and attached north and west walls, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259709). Barn, now house. C16 and C17 with C18 and other extensions. Timber-framed with weatherboarding, and tiled half-hipped roof.
TQ 86 NW 1146	Post Medieval	Manor House and attached garden wall, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259712). Farmhouse. Late C17-early C18, extended C18 and late C19. Brick, mathematical tile side range, with brick gable and lateral stacks, and tiled roof.
TQ 86 NW 1145	Medieval	Twydall Barn and attached wall, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259714). Barn, now house. C15, converted c1985. Timber-frame with weatherboarding and brick plinth and a tiled half-hipped roof.
TQ 86 NW 1144	Medieval to Post Medieval	York Farmhouse, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259716). House. C16 with C17, C18 and C19 additions. Timber-framed, elevations encased in red and blue brick in C19, rendered to right on 1st floor of east front of main block and north gable end of main block. Plain tiled roofs. East front: end stacks to right and left to main block, that to right projecting but encased in C19 extension.
TQ 86 NW 1148	Medieval to Post Medieval	Bloors Place, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II* listed (1267763). Hall house, now house. 1470-1510, for Christopher Bloor, rear wing early C16 truncated and rebuilt late C17, partly destroyed by C18 fire. MATERIALS: timber-frame, clad in red brick to ground floor and tile-hung above, galleated limestone rubble rear wing extended in English bond brick, and the right in Flemish bond brick, brick rear external stacks, and a tall octagonal stack with crenellated cap to the rear wing extension, and a hipped roof with left-hand gable.
TQ 86 NW 1149	Post Medieval	Garden Walls to the south and east of Bloors Place. Grade II listed (1267767). Mid C17. English bond brick and limestone rubble and dressings. Brick walls have plinth and angled brick beneath a weathered brick coping, stone walls have a moulded stone 4-centre arched doorway. Walls enclose E garden and S. kitchen garden.
TQ 86 NW 1167	Post Medieval	Range of outbuildings including Cart Lodge and Granary west of Bloors Place, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1267769). Cart shed and granary with adjoining cattle shed converted to coach house. Probably C18 with late C19 alterations to cattle shed. The cattle shed has a late C19 or C20 roof. Red brick in various bonds

		and partly weatherboarded timber-frame, and tiled roof.
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5.3 Previous Archaeological Works

- 5.3.1 There have been a small number of reports produced in relation to evaluations and excavations the area and these are covered below.
- 5.3.2 In 1989, an archaeological evaluation of Lower Twydall Chalk Pit was undertaken. When chalk was original quarried from the pit in the Victorian period for use in the manufacture of cement, which was located at Horrid Hill, a causeway was constructed across the saltings using material from the pit that was not used in the manufacturing process. During 1908, several hundreds of flint implements were recovered, which had washed out of the sides of the causeway. The majority of the implements were recovered from dated to the Palaeolithic period and some from the Neolithic. At the time it was not possible to identify the strata in the chalk pit that the finds had come from. (*Unpublished Report: Barnes, D. 1989, An Archaeological Evaluation of Lower Twydall Chalk Pit*).
- 5.3.3 In 1971 the Upchurch Archaeological Research Group undertook a field survey of the area and over 700 lithics were recovered in this survey, with the majority from the Palaeolithic and some from the Mesolithic. It is not clear exactly the location of the field survey (*Unpublished Document: Williams, J. 1972. Upchurch, Kent Archaeological Review, Vol 20, p. 257*)
- 5.3.4 In 1996, there was an evaluation at Berengrave Nursery, circa 420m south east of the PDA in advance of a development. A large number of lithics were found in test pits including awl, scrapers, notched flakes, blades and cores. Few diagnostic items but most of late Neolithic/Bronze Age date plus some blades possibly dating to the Mesolithic (*Unpublished Document: Archaeology South-East, 1996, An Archaeological Evaluation at Berengrave Nursery, Rainham, Kent*).
- 5.3.5 The 1990 report on the chalk pit provides some information regarding the stratigraphy of the chalk pit. The implements would be located from deposits overlaying the chalk bedrock or intruding into the chalk. The deposits varied in thickness from just below surface to up to 2.0m in depth. The reports confirmed due to extraction there is unlikely to be any remaining archaeological remains

within the chalk pit itself, but that the extent of the deposits and thus the archaeological potential of finding further implements surrounding the chalk pit are not known and an evaluation would be required to ascertain this (*Unpublished Report: Whittaker, K. 1990. Report on the Archaeological Potential of Lower Twydall Chalk Pit, Gillingham, Kent and the Archaeological Implications for the plans proposed by Kent Reclamation Limited*).

- 5.3.6 Wessex Archaeology produced a report in 1993 of a study of all the recorded Palaeolithic discoveries in England south of the Thames. Covered in the report is the wider area on the North Kent coast and the Hoo Peninsular. Only remains on the Hoo Peninsular have been securely dated with many other finds coming from secondary contexts. The reports recognise the importance of the Palaeolithic finds in the wider Twydall area as a Brickearth site where fine sediments cover the gravels of Lower Terraces of rivers, where these are alluvial sediments on ancient floodplains. These have a close association with Palaeolithic sites and Head deposits and brickearths associated with river valleys evident on the lower slopes of the hills facing the Thames estuary between Chatham and Faversham (*Unpublished Report: Wessex Archaeology; English Heritage. 1993. The Southern Rivers Palaeolithic Project Report No. 2: The South West and South of the Thames.*)

Landscape Characterisation

- 5.3.7 The PDA is in an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of predominately orchards. The south western corner of the PDA is classed as 'small regular with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure' (Fig. 25)
- 5.3.8 The PDA also sits within an area characterised as Historic Landscape Character Assessment 17 – Northern Horticultural Belt (Fig. 22). This area is defined as an area of horticulture activity, predominately orchards. Situated between major towns which would have supplied substantial markets as well as extensive road and rail connections for wider distribution for which the nearby A2 would have been a transportation corridor. The agricultural landscape would have consisted of scattered villages and farms with accompanying agricultural complexes. supported by hamlets. As seen in Fig. 22, across north Kent there are still an area of fruit belt from the Faversham area across west to Rainham and north of the A2, orchards would have dominated the landscape and in many places still do. Within these areas would also have been pockets of arable and pasture land

accompanied by strong hedgerows. Fruit orchards would have been a distinctive feature of the North Kent landscape since the 18th century and the PDA reflects that and still contributed to that landscape. Pump Farm and Bloors Farm are part of the scattered Farmsteads. As seen on the map, the PDA is located alone at the far western end of the fruit belt having been restricted by the urbanisation of the Medway Towns as well as the growth of Rainham.

- 5.3.9 In recent years the cohesion of the Fruit Belt landscape has weakened with more large-scale open fields and orchards and is considered very poor under the Kent Landscape Assessment. Mature fruit trees still remain but are increasingly replaced by dwarf rootstocks and the area of the PDA has both traditional and modern rootstocks varieties. The Kent Landscape Assessment recognises that the distinctness of the Fruit Belt area is indistinct with a weak sense of place as landscape features are not highly distinctive

Conservation Areas

- 5.3.10 There are two conservation areas within the assessment area. The council has not yet issued any appraisals relating to either area. One conservation area located along the ribbon development of the Lower Rainham Road and the other at Lower Twydall Lane. The Lower Rainham Conservation area extends to the area in the west around Chapel House and includes the PDA area to the north of Chapel House and the Lower Rainham Road. It also effectively borders the PDA at the rear of the houses of 500-506 Lower Rainham Road. The Lower Twydall Conservation area encompasses both sides of the Lower Twydall Road including York Farm, The Barn, Little London Farm and the Manor Court. The PDA borders parts of the conservation area in the region of the rear of York Farm and The Barn (Fig. 26).

0-100m Radius

- 5.3.11 There are 27 KHER entries for this area. Eleven included listed buildings. The listed house of Bloors Place (TQ 86 NW 1148) and associated garden wall (TQ 86 NW 1149) and outbuildings (TQ 86 NW 1167); Chapel House (TQ 86 NW 1151) at the northern end of Pump Lane; Pump Farmhouse (TQ 86 NW 1152); No. 497,499 and 501 (TQ 86 NW 1147) on the south side of the Lower Rainham Road; and The Old House (TQ 86 NW 1156) on the northern side of the Lower Rainham Road. The group on Lower Twydall Lane includes Little London Farmhouse (TQ 86 NW 1174),

Manor House and attached garden wall (TQ 86 NW 1146), Twydall Barn (TQ 86 NW 1145) and York Farmhouse (TQ 86 NW 1144).

5.3.12 Some of the listed buildings above also have related records for Farmsteads. This includes Twydall Farm (MKE 84865); York Farm (MKE 84866); Little London Farm (MKE 84867); Bloors Farm (MKE 84966), outfarm east of Bloors Farm (MKE 88904) and Pump Farm (MKE 84967).

5.3.13 There has been a number of finds whereby the exact location cannot be attributed due to them being found before detailed records began in the late 19th century or early 20th century. However, they are thought to be within the PDA or very close by. A 5th century Merovingian coin (TQ 86 NW 1) was found on the south side of the Lower Rainham Road. Roman pottery was found near the Lower Twydall chalk pit (TQ 86 NW 3) at the western side of the PDA though to be from a cremation burial. A large amount of Palaeolithic finds have been found emanating from the chalk pit, which were found in a secondary context north of the pit where the chalk pit extraction used some of the material to build a causeway (TQ 86 NW 4). A polished stone axe from the Neolithic period was discovered around Bloors Place (TQ 86 NW 15), exact location unknown and in the same area around Bloors Place, Palaeolithic handaxes and flint debitage were found in the late 129th century (TQ 86 NW 205). In the area of Pump Farm, Mesolithic blades and flakes were discovered, again exact location unknown but likely to be within the PDA (TQ 86 NW 50). Under the Portable Antiquities scheme, a find of a Medieval copper alloy seal matrix was reported to have been found within the PDA in the southern area (MKE 66595), under the PAS scheme exact locations are not detailed but the find assigned to an area. South of the PDA in the area south of the railway, 1972 fieldwalking identified 17th and 18th century pottery (TQ 86 NW 51). Following the southern boundary of the PDA is the Chatham and Dover Railway built in 1853 (TQ 85 SE 300). The position of what was the Methodist Chapel that was to the west of Bloor Place is also recognised (TQ 86 NW 1021).

100-200m Radius

5.3.14 There are five KHER entries for this area. Black House, a Grade II listed house from the 17th century is on the Lower Rainham Road circa 150m north west of the PDA boundary (TQ 86 NW 200). In the area of the house, following excavations,

evidence of Medieval domestic occupation was discovered beneath the post Medieval building (TQ 86 NW 201). In this area pottery from 725-850 AD was also found (TQ 86 NW 202) indicating possible early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon occupation in the area. On the Lower Twydall Road, west of the PDA is the Grade II listed building of Manor Barn and the attached north and west walls (TQ 86 NW 1153). Located north on the PDA on the foreshore is a square pit thought to be an old Oyster bed (TQ 86 NW 1057).

200-300m Radius

5.3.15 There are eight KHER entries for this area. Circa 300m to the north west of the PDA, Roman pottery was discovered. As with many early finds, the exact location and details are not known (TQ 86 NW 2). North of the PDA in the salt marsh rectangular cuts have been identified from aerial photographs, no further information is known (TQ 86 NW 1083). South of the railway and circa 300m south west of the PDA a late Bronze Age axe was found in 1978 in a garden (TQ 86 NW 52). To the East North east of the PDA is located a Post Medieval wharf identified from an 1835 chart of the Medway (TQ 86 NW 1019) and to the north is a circular embankment within the Riverside Country Park of unknown function (TQ 86 NW 1033). Circa 250m to the east of the PDA is Queen's Court, a post Medieval farmstead where only the farmhouse remains (MKE 84964). Circa 300m north west of the PDA is another farmstead, which only has partial loss of its original form (MKE 84868). South of the railway and the PDA is Conzenton Park, opened in the 1970s, being predominately orchards prior to being a park (TQ 86 NW 1192).

300-400m Radius

5.3.16 There are five KHER records for this area. South of the railway and south west of the PDA a Bronze Age axe was found at 67 Hollingbourne Road in 1978 (TQ 86 NW 178). This is circa 300m from the Bronze Age Axe recorded and mentioned above as TQ 86 NW 52). An outfarm east of Sharp's Green to the north west of the PDA that is completely demolished is recorded (MKE 84864). South of the railway and the PDA, was an outfarm on Pump Lane, since demolished (MKE 84965). Circa 400m north west of the PDA on the Lower Rainham Road was St. John's Mission Church built in 1880 and closed in 1950 (TQ 86 NW 1059).

400-500m Radius

- 5.3.17 There are five KHER records for this area, three to the north of the PDA on the foreshore, one to the south west of a number of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age flakes (TQ 86 NW 177), one to the east being a Roman pottery kiln (TQ 86 NW 56) and two relating to fish weirs of unknown date identified from aerial photographs (TQ 86 NW 1038 & TQ 86 NW 1034) and the third a Post Medieval wharf (TQ 86 NW 1018).

5.4 Archaeological and Historical Narrative

- 5.4.1 Rainham means settlement of the Roegingas: the ruling or powerful men being Roeginga ham in old English. Various spelling included Raenham in c. 1100 AD, Reneham in 1176, Reynham in 1240.
- 5.4.2 In the Palaeolithic period the Medway was initially the dominant river rather than the Thames. As a consequence, many of the sand and gravel areas of the Medway contain Palaeolithic finds especially in the areas around the Hoo Peninsular and Rochester. However, the Twydall chalk pit has evidenced many Palaeolithic finds and Palaeolithic implements have also been found at Otterham Quay. Of the Mesolithic period there is little evidence. The Neolithic has limited evidence as well but a gully and posthole have been found at Grange Farm, Gillingham and a Neolithic/Bronze Age flint working floor was found west of Motney Hill, north east of the PDA in 1952. In the wider Medway area Medway has megalithic monuments, in particular Neolithic long barrows of great importance. Grange Farm to the north west of the PDA has also provided evidence of Bronze Age activity.
- 5.4.3 Located just south of the A2 in Rainham, evidence of Iron Age occupation and activity has been found with enclosure and a roundhouse. In the wider area the known important Iron Age areas are hill forts located at Bigbery (near Canterbury), Oldbury and Quarry Wood.
- 5.4.4 Roman settlement activity has been found in the area of Rainham Creek and Otterham Quay, to the north east of the PDA. A Roman cremation burial ground is located just to the east of Rainham Docks East. Near the head of Otterham Quay is another probably Roman cemetery found in 1910 whilst digging for brickearth.

In addition, the A2 is on the path of Watling Street, the Roman Road from London to Canterbury and on to Dover. Upchurch the next village on the north Kent coast to the east of Otterham is well known for its Roman occupation and cemetery as well as many Roman pottery works. Closer circa 500m from the eastern boundary of the PDA at Berengrave Nature Reserve in the 19th century it is thought that a Romano-British pottery kiln was discovered although the precise location is uncertain.

- 5.4.5 In a charter dated 811 AD, Rainham is described as a royal town when the charter records a grant of land to Wulfred, Archbishop of Canterbury. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery has been found at nearby Otterham Creek.
- 5.4.6 There is no separate entry for Rainham in the Domesday Book. Nearby Upchurch and Newington come under the Manors in Milton, near Sittingbourne with Gillingham under the manor of Chatham.
- 5.4.7 Rainham Street was essentially a linear development along Watling Street focused around the junction with station Road. Rainham East was situated at the southern end of a spur of land Called Motney Hill and the docks and the area of Rainham East is known to have Medieval origins. Lower Rainham (also known as West Rainham) is the area around Bloors Place and the Lower Rainham Road was essentially a ribbon development as was at one time the main road from Chatham to Queenborough.
- 5.4.8 The church in Rainham is located on the south side of Watling Street and is dated to the 13th century with the local Kentish Ragstone and flint used in its construction. As with many other churches, it underwent restoration in the Victorian period.
- 5.4.9 Bloors Place takes its name from the family of le Bloere or le Blore. Originally built in the 15th century as a Wealden hall house with a stone range added to the rear in the early 16th century. Based on writings in 1798 by Hasted a historian he comments that Christopher Bloor, who had bought the Manor of Sileham from Sir Antony St Leger, 'rebuilt his seat in this parishin which his ancestors had resided for several generations'. The house has been altered and extended many times and some of it demolished in the late 18th century to reduce its size. The house subsequently belonged to the Earl of Thanet.

- 5.4.10 Berengrave Park to the east of the PDA had been part of the Manor of Queencourt. Queen Elenor, the widow of Henry II gave it to St. Catherine's Hospital in 1273. The Park was mainly used for cattle and sheep grazing.
- 5.4.11 The northern part of the parish of Rainham incorporates the North Kent Fruit Belt, an area of local agricultural importance classed as Grade 1 land with crops such as apples, pears, cherries and other soft fruits. The rural landscape is characterised by dispersed settlements.
- 5.4.12 The north Kent coast and proximity to London meant a number of chalk quarries and clay extraction occurred in the area with the manufacturing of bricks, cement and lime. Adjoining the PDA is Twydall chalk quarry and the cement works to the north of this quarry on the coast at Sharps Green north west from the PDA. The Cement Works started in 1902 and were closed by 1913. The works incorporated a barge quay north of Sharps Green in an area called Horrid Hill as well as having 7 chamber kilns. The chalk pit at Twydall was connected to the cement works by tramway. Bloors Wharf is located north of Bloors Place. It was originally called Blowers Quay based on a survey commissioned by Queen Elizabeth I in 1566.
- 5.4.13 In 1912 at Motney Hill cement works started connected to a chalk pit located to the south now known as Berengrave Local Nature Reserve. The cement works also had its own docks called Rainham Docks East. The cement works closed at Motney Hill in the 1930s with the chalk pit also closing in 1931.
- 5.4.14 In the early 20th century much of the area north of Watling Street being the dip slope of the North Downs was dug for brickearth for the local brick making industry. In the tithe records, the field designated No. 2 is called 'Pump Farm Brickearth'. The nearest brickworks were located around Otterham Quay. One, known as Leeneys, was right on Otterham Quay itself. This brickfield closed in 1931-1932. Another located in an area known as Four Gun field closed in 1954. Opposite this field was Clover Lay brickfield which closed in 1953. The largest brickworks were in Big Field which closed in the 1980s. Brickearth deposits are normally 2-4m thick that overlay chalk. It is this brickearth that provides the rich soil needed for agriculture
- 5.4.15 The Earl of Thanet was a large landowner in the area as seen recorded in the tithes. William Smart was a tenant on some of the land of the PDA. The tithes

show the area of the PDA to be a mix of arable and orchards consisting of a number of individual fields. Whilst William Smart lived at Bloors Place, Pump Farm was also owned by the Earl of Thanet and occupied by Mrs Frances Sugden.

5.4.16 The railway was constructed in 1858 from Chatham to Faversham, which fuelled the growth of industry but also urbanisation, particularly the area north of the High Street. Following electrification of the railway and increasing urbanisation, to the south of Watling Street, saw Rainham as a commuter town for London in the 20th century. As a result of this growth, the various separate areas of Rainham, such as east, west and Lower have now all been incorporated into the main town.

5.4.17 Rainham was a separate area until 1928, when it became part of the Municipal Borough of Gillingham. In 1998, it then became part of the Medway Unitary Authority.

5.4.18 Pump Farm appears not to have operated as a working farm since circa 1930s when it became the site of a road haulage depot. In 2005 the site of the farmyard was developed for 24 residential houses with many buildings demolished and the farmhouse remaining. The site is now called Russetts.

5.4.19 In 1997, Bloors Wharf became part of the Riverside Country Park. The park is situated on the coastal region between Gillingham and Rainham and consists of circa 100 hectares. It was originally established in 1970 and officially opened in 1987 following designation as the area as a country park under the Countryside Act 1968. The land was formally farmland that was then used as waste disposal by the council, which stopped in the 1950s with the land being left.

5.5 Cartographic Sources and Map Regression

Andrews, Dury and Herbert map of 1769

5.5.1 Andrews, Dury and Herbert published their atlas some thirty years before the Ordnance Survey, immediately becoming the best large-scale maps of the county. This shows a sparsely populated landscape. Lower Twydall Lane and Pump Lane can be identified but it does not show Bloors Lane. Station Road can be identified

running northwards from the church and west of that running northwards is Berengrave Lane identified by Cusington (aka Cozenton). However, To the west on the map in the area of Twydall the map is labelled Barringrove instead and is probably a corruption of Berengrave but is also appears to be in the wrong location. Also, East Rainham is extremely close on this map with West Rainham (Fig. 3).

Hasted, 1798

- 5.5.2 This map appears more accurate. Bloors Place is called Blowers Place. There is just a ribbon development along the Lower Rainham Road and is called West Rainham. Twydall is to the west as you would expect. The administrative boundary line is also shown to the west of what is Pump Lane. No buildings are shown within the PDA area (Fig. 4).

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1797

- 5.5.3 This map shows the individual buildings and essentially shows an agricultural landscape or arable fields and orchards. There is only one building showing in the area of the PDA and that is in the eastern half, north of the bridleway. Bloors Place, Pump Farm and two cottages at the junction of Pump Lane and the bridleway can be identified for the first time (Fig. 5).

Tithe Map from 1838

- 5.5.4 The tithe map shows greater detail but due to the administrative boundary it is not possible to view the south western corner. The PDA forms a large number of fields, all under different ownerships and occupiers. The property to the north of the bridleway in the eastern half is designated 107, and is a house and garden. Property 9 on the south corner of the junction with Pump Lane and the bridleway was alms-houses. The large field in the northern part of the eastern half was owned by the Earl of Thanet and occupied by Mrs Frances Sugden and called a plantation and garden. Mrs Frances Sugden also had a number of other fields in the PDA labelled as orchards. In addition, she occupied the farmhouse at Pump Farm. Aside from Mrs Frances Sugden there are a number of other owner and occupiers of either orchards or arable land. Bloors Place at this point was owned by the Earl of Thanet and occupied by William Smart who also farmed some of the fields. Of note is one of the fields designated No. 2, which is called 'Brickfield'. This is located on the western side of Pump Lane south of Pump Farm. It is not

clear whether brickearth may have been extracted here or if not or why the field got its name (Fig. 6 & 7).

Historic OS Map 1865 1:10,560

- 5.5.5 This is the first properly scaled OS map. The PDA is a mixture of orchards especially in the area north of the bridleway and south of Bloors Place, along with arable fields. West Rainham is assigned to the area around Pump Farm with the hamlet around the Lower Rainham Road now referred to as Lower Rainham. The bridleway has a couple of tracks leaning to the north from various points heading towards Bloors Place. The bridleway to the east crosses Bloors Lane and continues easterly towards Queens Court and connects up with a path heading towards Rainham High Street. At the junction of Pump Lane and the bridleway on the eastern side are two properties and on the northern side of the bridleway is another small property with a well. West of Bloors Place is a small Methodist Church and to the west of that, a school.
- 5.5.6 On the western side of Pump Lane, north of the bridleway there are now no houses until the junction with the Lower Rainham Road is reached. On the western side of Pump Lane near the junction with the Lower Rainham Road are two houses and southwards the farmstead of Pump Farm. The western side of the PDA crosses the Administrative boundary line, which is marked in place by boundary stones south of the railway. North of the railway the boundary is marked by a hedge in parts whilst other parts the boundary line has been defaced or destroyed. The western boundary of the PDA reaching Lower Twydall Lane in the far south western corner, then hugging the rear boundaries of York Farm, Little London, and Twydall Farm. On the northern boundary, at the western side there are no properties at this point in time. The southern boundary is defined by the railway (Fig. 8).

Historic OS map 1896 1:10,560

- 5.5.7 West Rainham is now a much smaller label, with the area clearly now referred to as Lower Rainham. North of the bridleway there is now only one track showing heading towards Bloors Place. Virtually all of the eastern side of the PDA is now orchards with more orchard areas added to the western half. At the junction of Pump Lane and the bridleway one of the two properties is no longer showing. In

addition, at the northern end of Pump Lane at the junction with the Lower Rainham Road, on the western side there is now only one property showing. On the western half there is a new trackway running on an east west axis from the area of Little London towards the vicinity of Pump Farm. Parts of Pump Lane and Bloors Lane are showing as trackways rather than a full road. At the rear of Bloors Place, the map shows a new square building. The Administrative Boundary now appears to be marked by stones north of the railway (Fig.9).

Historic OS map 1906 1:10,560

- 5.5.8 The main change is the opening of the chalk pit in the western half. The chalk pit is connected to the north via a tramway, crossing the Lower Rainham Road, up to Horrid Hill. The trackway at the rear of Little London continues unaltered but there is now another track from the rear of York Farm into the orchard with both trackways stopping at the parish line. The building to the rear of Bloors Place is now labelled as a windmill and the footpath from the bridleway towards Bloors Place is now showing again (Fig.10).

Historic OS map 1931-1932 1:10,560

- 5.5.9 The quarry appears to have reached its full extent and appears to be no longer active. There are no some more buildings by the windmill south of Bloors Place. New properties have been built on the eastern side of Pump Lane. One halfway between the bridleway and the Lower Rainham Road and another south of the existing property at the junction of the bridleway and Pump Lane. Virtually all of the PDA is now orchards with the exception of new allotments in the south east corner and a nursery facing the Lower Rainham Road on its southern side. In the area to the west of Pump Farm there appears to be a number of very small outbuildings within the orchards of a purpose unknown. The trackways at the rear of York Farm and Little London are no longer showing. Residential housing can also be seen creeping northwards along both sides of Pump Lane from the A2 Watling Street. (Fig.11).

Historic OS map 1938 1: 10,560

- 5.5.10 There does not appear much in the way of change other than Pump Farm has a new large building at the western side of the farmstead. South of the railway the area is becoming more urbanised around the southern end of Pump Lane (Fig.12).

Historic OS map 1955-1958 1:2500

- 5.5.11 The map is annotated with two separate archaeological remains. In the area of the chalk pit it mentions that 'Palaeolithic flint implements found'. In the area south of the junction of the Lower Rainham Road and Pump Lane that 'Dark Ages Gold Coin Found'. The Administrative Boundary line is no longer showing. On the eastern side of Pump Lane, north of the bridleway are new buildings. The residential housing has now reached south of the railway. The term West Rainham is no longer used for the area of Pump Farm. It is all referred to as Lower Rainham. (Fig.13).

Historic OS map 1967-1968 1:10,560

- 5.5.12 Pump Farm seems to have lost some of its smaller buildings in the yard area. The nursery at the north of the western half has a small building in the plot and another building is now located on the south side of the Lower Rainham Road to the west of the nursery. The school to the west of Bloors Place now is a church. The Methodist Church next to Bloors Place is still there. More housing has been built at the northern end on the eastern side of Pump Lane. A new building is located south of what was the windmill at the rear of Bloors Place. The area of the PDA is still predominately orchards but the orchards appears to have had some of their boundaries removed making them larger in size. Twydall Farm is now called Manor Farm. In the area of the bridleway and Pump Farm one of the properties at the southern part of the junction is no longer showing, nor is the property on the northern side of the bridleway a little way to the east (Fig.14).

Historic OS map 1973-1974 1:10,000

- 5.5.13 There do not appear to be many changes. The Methodist church is no longer labelled. (Fig.15).

Historic OS map 1979-1983 1:10,000

5.5.14 In the area of Pump Farm, the farmhouse is labelled separately and the yard is now called a depot. The houses on the eastern side of the northern end of Pump Lane now have longer gardens. The building on the nursery plot is no longer there and it is no longer labelled a nursery and appears to be part of the wider orchard. On Lower Twydall Lane the place previously referred to as Little London is now The Barn. (Fig. 16)

Historic OS map 2002 1:10,000

5.5.15 A new large barn has been built to the north of Pump Farmhouse. The allotment area has extended southwards to adjoin the railway. The orchards are criss-crossed with farm trackways. Neither church on the Lower Rainham Road is now labelled (Fig. 17)

Historic OS map 2010 1:10,000

5.5.16 The depot area of Pump Farm is now residential housing and is now called Russett Farm. Next to Bloors Place are residential properties called The Wagon Lodge and The Dairy (Fig. 18).

Historic OS map 2014 1:10,000

5.5.17 There is little change (Fig. 19).

LIDAR DSM 1m.

5.5.18 This map from the Environment Agency does not appear to show anything of note other than the in the area at the southern part of the PDA in the field to the west of Pump Lane, which appears to show a depression. This is the field in the area designated a Brickearth in the tithe map and may be possible related to brickearth extraction (Fig. 20).

5.6 Aerial Photographs

1940s

5.6.1 This shows the PDA as predominately orchards. Pump Farm and Bloors Place can be seen as well as properties along the area of the bridleway which appears to be an open track at this point with a hedge on the southern side. In the south east corner are the allotments. The building to the south of Bloors Place looks like two square oasts. The chalk pit area is scrub (Plate 1).

1960s

- 5.6.2 There is now a barn to the south of the oast houses south of Bloors Place. The orchards are of different maturity of trees. On the southern side of the Lower Rainham Road in the western half, there is a new residential property west of the plot that is the nursery. The house at the southern side of the junction of the bridleway and Pump Lane is no longer there but new properties have been built on the eastern side of Pump Lane, north of the bridleway. Some of the orchard areas have hedges along the boundaries. (Plate 2).

1990

- 5.6.3 The property on the northern side of the bridleway east of Pump Lane is no longer there. At Pump Farm, the farmhouse has been separated off from the rest of the yard which is now a lorry depot. A new long narrow barn has been built to the north of the yard in the orchard area. The area south of York Farm in the south western corner of the PDA has had the orchard area reduced to a few rows with a dense wooded area between the orchard and south of York Farm. Some hedges within the orchard area have been added and some removed. There now appears to be hedges both sides of the bridleway. The nursery and buildings are now orchard. The residential area at the corner of the Lower Rainham Road and Pump Lane is bounded by hedges between the gardens and the orchards (Plate 3).

2003

- 5.6.4 On the eastern half, some of the orchards have been removed or replaced with younger trees. The narrow barn at the rear of Pump Farm now has a large more modern barn added next to it. In the south east corner, the allotment area has extended. There are land fill works being undertaken in the area of the old chalk pit (Plate 4).

2006

- 5.6.5 Pump Farm has been replaced with the residential development of Russetts surrounding the Pump Farmhouse. Many of the hedges subdividing the orchards have matured. (Plate 5).

2007

- 5.6.6 No changes are noted (Plate 6).

2011

- 5.6.7 No changes are noted other than farm worker caravans are north of the barn by Pump Farm. (Plate 7).

2013

- 5.6.8 The works at the chalk pit have finished. The barn south of Bloors Place appears to be a ruin. On the western side of Bloors Lane in the orchard appears to be a tank. In the north western area, the orchard hedges have been removed to make larger orchards. (Plate 8).

2015

- 5.6.9 No changes are noted (Plate 8).

2018

The barn to the south of Bloors Place has been rebuilt and that area separated off from the orchard. No other changes are noted (Plate 8).

5.7 Walkover Survey

- 5.7.1 The walkover survey is not intended as a detailed survey but the rapid identification of archaeological features and any evidence for buried archaeology in the form of surface scatters of lithic or pottery artefacts. The walkover survey was undertaken on the 8th August 2018. No artefacts or archaeological features were identified in the walkover (Plates 11-39).
- 5.7.2 The PDA is predominately orchard with trees on different maturities. There are two buildings currently within the PDA being two barns to the north of Pump Farmhouse. There is also a tank on the eastern boundary by Bloors Lane. The orchards in some areas are divided by tree windbreaks. The western side is currently accessed via a track north of Pump Farmhouse with the eastern side accessed via the northern end of Bloors Lane. It was noted that Bloors Lane was about 6-8ft lower than the land level on the eastern side of the PDA. The bridleway is active and crossed the eastern half with the path screened by vegetation from the rest of the PDA.

5.8 Summary of Potential

Palaeolithic

- 5.8.1 The Palaeolithic period represents the earliest phases of human activity in the British Isles, up to the end of the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. The chalk pit adjacent to the PDA on the western side had many Palaeolithic finds. South of Bloors Place Palaeolithic handaxes on the eastern side of the PDA and other flint debitage has also been found. In the wider area nearby Otterham Quay has Palaeolithic finds and the wider area around the Medway is well known for early finds from this period as seen on the Hoo Peninsular. In the immediate area around the PDA, little has been securely dated in primary locations. Previous archaeological evaluations suggest the chalk bedrock levels above which these finds are found varies from below the surface to 2m in depth meaning that the archaeology from this period does not necessarily have to be deep. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Mesolithic

- 5.8.2 The Mesolithic period reflects a society of hunter-gatherers active after the last Ice Age. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area being blades and flakes found in the area near Pump Farm, where the exact location is unknown but likely to be within the PDA. To the south east at Berengrave Nursery a large number of flints were found including possible Mesolithic blades. Mesolithic artefacts are less common in the wider area and the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Neolithic

- 5.8.3 The Neolithic period was the beginning of a sedentary lifestyle based on agriculture and animal husbandry. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. A Neolithic handaxe was found at Bloor's Place and the Lower Twydall chalk pith also originally contained late Neolithic flints. In addition, there are the flints found at Berengrave Nursery that included the Neolithic period. Therefore, potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Bronze Age

- 5.8.4 The Bronze Age was a period of large migrations from the continent and more complex social developments on a domestic, industrial and ceremonial level. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. Both were south of the railway and the PDA and were found in 1978 circa 350m apart being axes. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Iron Age

- 5.8.5 The Iron Age is, by definition a period of established rural farming communities with extensive field systems and large 'urban' centres (the Iron Age 'Tribal capital' or civitas of the Cantiaci). The Kent HER has no records from this period. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low**.

Romano-British

- 5.8.6 The Romano-British period is the term given to the Romanised culture of Britain under the rule of the Roman Empire, following the Claudian invasion in AD 43, Britain then formed part of the Roman Empire for nearly 400 years. The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. The exact location unknown but Roman pottery possible relating to a cremation burial was found near the Lower Twydall chalk pit. North west of the PDA in the area of Sharp's Green further Roman pottery was discovered, again the exact location is unknown. Roman activity in the wider area includes Roman settlement activity has been found in the area of Rainham Creek and Otterham Quay, to the north east of the PDA and a Roman-British pottery kiln circa 500m east of the PDA at Berengrave Nature Reserve although the precise location is unknown. A Roman cremation burial ground is located just to the east of Rainham Docks East. And near the head of Otterham Quay is another probably Roman cemetery. The potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **moderate**.

Anglo-Saxon

- 5.8.7 The Kent HER has two records from this period within the assessment area. Anglo-Saxon period pottery was found in the area of Sharp's Green, north west of the PDA. In addition, a 5th century coin was discovered in the north western area of the eastern half of the PDA, exact location unknown. These suggest that there is Anglo-Saxon activity in the area and the possibility of chance finds cannot be discounted. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **low/moderate**.

Medieval

- 5.8.8 The Kent HER has 11 records from this period within the assessment area. There are two main Medieval areas, the ribbon development along the Lower Rainham Road and the cluster of buildings on the northern end of Lower Twydall Lane. Chapel house (Grade II) is mid to late 15th century in date and is located on the western side of the northern end of Pump Lane is adjacent to the PDA. More Grade II houses are on the southern side of the Lower Rainham Road also from the late 15th century being No. 497, 499 and 501, originally an open hall house, it is now three houses. On the northern side of the Lower Rainham Road is The Old House (Grade II) from the 15th century. Medieval domestic occupation was also found below the Post Medieval house at The Black House on the Lower Rainham Road. Adjoining the north east area of the PDA is Bloors Place, a Grade II* listed building with 15th century origins. On Lower Twydall Lane is the grade II Little London Farmhouse, thought to be late 15th century or early 16th century. The Manor Barn (Grade II) is dated to the 16th century origins. Nearby Twydall Barn is 15th century and York Farmhouse is 16th century. Within the area of the PDA but exact location unknown but in the eastern half, a Medieval copper alloy seal matrix was found and reported under the PAS scheme. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period cannot be entirely discounted within the confines of the development site but it is considered **low**.

Post Medieval

- 5.8.9 The Kent HER has 11 records from this period within the assessment area. Pump Farmhouse is from this period (Grade II) being late 18th century. The grade II garden walls and outbuildings of Bloors Place are from this period. Black House, north west of the PDA (Grade II) dated to the early-mid 17th century. The Manor

House (Grade II) in Lower Twydall Lane is late 17th century. The railway was opened in 1853. Post Medieval pottery has been found near Twydall and is thought to be an area south of the railway. North of the PDA on the foreshore are two wharfs from this period. On the Lower Rainham Road are recorded the location of the Methodist Church that was to the west of Bloors Place and The St. John's Mission Church that closed in the 1950s. Map regression confirms that the majority of the PDA was either arable fields or orchards in this period. However, within the PDA there was a house on the northern side of the bridleway that has been demolished along with a number of other structures in the western half that have also been demolished. These included buildings in the northern part of the western half where the nursery used to be and a number of smaller buildings in the area west of Pump Farm within the orchards. Therefore, the potential for finding remains that date to this period within the confines of the development site is considered **high**.

Modern

- 5.8.10 KHER has one record dating to this period being Cozenton Park which opened in the 1970s. Therefore, the potential for finding remains dating to this period in the PDA is considered **low**.

Farmsteads

- 5.8.11 There are 10 farmstead records confirming the rural and agricultural nature of the area. Some farmsteads still have the farmhouse remaining, which are listed with the exception of Queens Court. This includes Pump Farm, Twydall Farm, York Farm, Little London Farm and Bloors Farm. A number have been completely demolished such as an outfarm south east of Bloors Farm, another on Pump Lane south of the railway, an outfarm east of Sharp's Green. There is a surviving farmstead north east of Twydall to the north west of the PDA.

Unknown

- 5.8.12 There are five KHER records of unknown date. These all relate to features identified from aerial photographs on the foreshore area north of the PDA. This includes 2 fish weirs, a square pit as a possible oyster bed and other rectangular cuts and a circular embankment of unknown function.

Overview

5.8.13 This desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site but this potential can only be tested by fieldwork.

5.8.14 The desk-based assessment has considered the archaeological potential of the site. Archaeological investigations in the vicinity, map research, the historical environment record results and recent archaeological investigations have shown that the PDA may contain archaeological sites and these can be summarised as:

- Prehistoric: **high**
- Iron Age: **low**
- Roman: **moderate**
- Anglo-Saxon: **low/moderate**
- Medieval: **low**
- Post-Medieval: **high**
- Modern: **low**

6 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Cartographic Regression, Topographical Analysis, and Historic Research have provided evidence for the historic use of the site. By collating this information, we have assessed the impact on previous archaeological remains through the following method of categorisation:

- **Total Impact** - Where the area has undergone a destructive process to a depth that would in all probability have destroyed any archaeological remains e.g. construction, mining, quarrying, archaeological evaluations etc.
- **High Impact** – Where the ground level has been reduced to below natural geographical levels that would leave archaeological remains partly in situ either in plan or section e.g. the construction of roads, railways, buildings, strip foundations etc.

- **Medium Impact** – Where there has been low level or random disturbance of the ground that would result in the survival of archaeological remains in areas undisturbed e.g. the installation of services, pad-stone or piled foundations, temporary structures etc.
- **Low Impact** – Where the ground has been penetrated to a very low level e.g. farming, landscaping, slab foundation etc.

6.2 Historic Impacts

- 6.2.1 Cartographic regression (5.5), Topographic analysis (1.2) and Historical research (5.4) indicate that the PDA was agricultural land, orchard as the most common use. However, repeated grubbing out of fruit trees over time would have disturbed the upper layers as well as the digging of shallow trenches in modern times for water pipes for irrigation of the trees. As mentioned in the Post Medieval periods there were some structures, some residential and some of unknown purpose, which have been demolished that would have had foundations which would have potentially disturbed any archaeological remains in those areas. Therefore, any impact on surviving archaeological remains would have been **low/medium**.
- 6.2.2 The use of the PDA for residential development will require foundations. As a consequence, the proposed development will have a **high** impact upon any potential archaeology within the area of the foundations.

7 SIGNIFICANCE

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 Archaeological Significance is assessed under a number of criteria, which includes, period, rarity, group value, survival/condition, fragility/vulnerability, diversity and potential. These criteria are the same as used by the Government in the scheduling of ancient monuments and provides a useful framework in assessing significance, which also pulls together and summarises the findings.

7.2 Significance Criteria

Period

- 7.2.1 The non-designated assets relate from the earliest period of human activity the Palaeolithic onwards and relates to the attractiveness and use of the estuary area that also continued into the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. The Bronze Age is also represented. There appears to be a gap in activity in the area until the Roman period whereby the foreshore for maritime transport links was important as well as the Romans leaving burial and pottery evidence, especially to the area east of the PDA. Medieval occupation began in the area around the Lower Road and Twydall Lane and the hamlet grew in the Post Medieval period as seen by the Designated Assets of the surviving houses with the creation of scattered farms.

Rarity

- 7.2.2 Prehistoric activity, particularly in the Palaeolithic period is rare and as a result understanding the occupation and activity and exploitation of the estuary is a key research topic of national significance. As in understanding the Roman occupation and exploitation along the foreshore in this area is considered of regional significance. Understanding of the Medieval and Post-Medieval development of the area can be considered to be of local rarity.

Documentation

- 7.2.3 The historical and landscape development of the PDA can be understood reasonably well from the cartographic, photographic and other sources. No doubt further research may uncover more documentary evidence, although it is unlikely to alter the conclusion present in this report.

Group Value

- 7.2.4 The potential for the PDA as part of the Thames estuary foreshore to have Palaeolithic and Roman remains has a high group value with the remains from this period nearby already found representing the use of the estuary resources. There is also group value in understanding the landscape agricultural development and setting alongside the farms of Bloors Place and Pump Farm.

Survival/ Condition

- 7.2.5 The survival of the potential archaeological remains within the PDA is currently unknown. Mapping shows that the vast majority of the area was and is agricultural

and therefore archaeological remains may survive. However, repeated grubbing out of fruit trees over time would have disturbed the upper layers as well as the digging of shallow trenches in modern times for water pipes for irrigation of the trees. In addition, map regression shows some Post Medieval structures, some residential and some of unknown purpose, which have since been demolished that would have had foundations and could have potentially disturbed any archaeological remains in those areas. It is possible that some of the foundations of these earlier buildings may also survive below ground.

Fragility/ Vulnerability

- 7.2.6 Any potential remains within the PDA, should they survive in-situ will be vulnerable to damage from the construction of foundations and services during the proposed development. Currently there is no geotechnical information regarding the site and many of the archaeological discoveries, the stratigraphy is not known.

Diversity

- 7.2.7 The potential for archaeological remains is diverse, covering the earliest period of humans through to the Post Medieval period, although there it is thought that there is little potential by way of the Anglo-Saxon and Iron Age period. From the Palaeolithic and onwards during the prehistoric period. The Palaeolithic remains are significant given their lack of diversity. The Roman period is better understood, although a greater understanding is required with respect to the pottery manufacture and transport links in the area. The use of the area for farming and the fruit belt

Potential

- 7.2.8 The potential for the prehistoric period is considered high given the Palaeolithic remains found in the area. The Post Medieval period is considered high with possible demolished buildings within the PDA and that the PDA adjoins the boundaries of the properties on the southern side of the Lower Rainham Road. The Roman period is considered moderate as the majority of the activity appears to the east of the PDA and along Watling Street. However, the possibility of finds from this period cannot be discounted. Again, due to the origins of the hamlet along the Lower Rainham Road and Twydall Lane in the Medieval period, chance finds are also possible.

Significance

- 7.2.9 The south east research framework (SERF), mentions the need to understand Palaeolithic chronology especially in the areas of Palaeolithic deposits of which the Thames Estuary is significant. Previous finds have been unstratified and not subject to modern archaeological methods in the area, which adds to the significance of the site. Understanding the exploitation of the coastal area for all the prehistoric periods is key. SERF also expresses a requirement to understand more about the rural settlement in Roman times for non-villa sites. The Conservation Area focuses on the hamlets historical Medieval / Post-Medieval origins and local significance along the Lower Rainham Road as well as in Twydall Lane. Although no appraisal for either Conservation Area has yet been written. However, the Council's strategic land available has reviewed and considered the area not suitable due to the historic landscape, archaeological and agricultural significance.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

8.1 Introduction

- 8.1.1 The purpose of this archaeological desk-based assessment was to provide an assessment of the contextual archaeological record in order to determine the potential survival of archaeological deposits that may be impacted upon during any proposed construction works.
- 8.1.2 The assessment has generally shown that the area to be developed is within an area of **high** archaeological potential for the prehistoric and Post Medieval periods with **moderate** and **low/moderate** chance for the Roman and Anglo-Saxon period respectively. All other periods are **low**. The need for, scale, scope and nature of any further assessment and/or archaeological works should be agreed through consultation with the statutory authorities.

9 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

9.1 Archive

- 9.1.1 Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, two copies of this desk-based assessment will be submitted to the LPA and Kent County Council (Heritage) within 6 months of completion.

9.2 Reliability/Limitations of Sources

- 9.2.1 The sources that were used in this assessment were, in general, of high quality. The majority of the information provided herewith has been gained from either published texts or archaeological 'grey' literature held at Kent County Council, and therefore considered as being reliable.

9.3 Copyright

- 9.3.1 Swale & Thames Survey Company and the author shall retain full copyright on the commissioned report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. All rights are reserved, excepting that it hereby provides exclusive licence to A C Goatham and Son (and representatives) for the use of this document in all matters directly relating to the project.

Paul Wilkinson PhD MCIfA.

SWAT Archaeology

January 2019

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Figure 1: Site location map, scale 1:20000.



Figure 2: Proposed Development Area.



Figure 3: Andrew, Dury and Herbert Map from 1769



Figure 4: Hasted, 1798

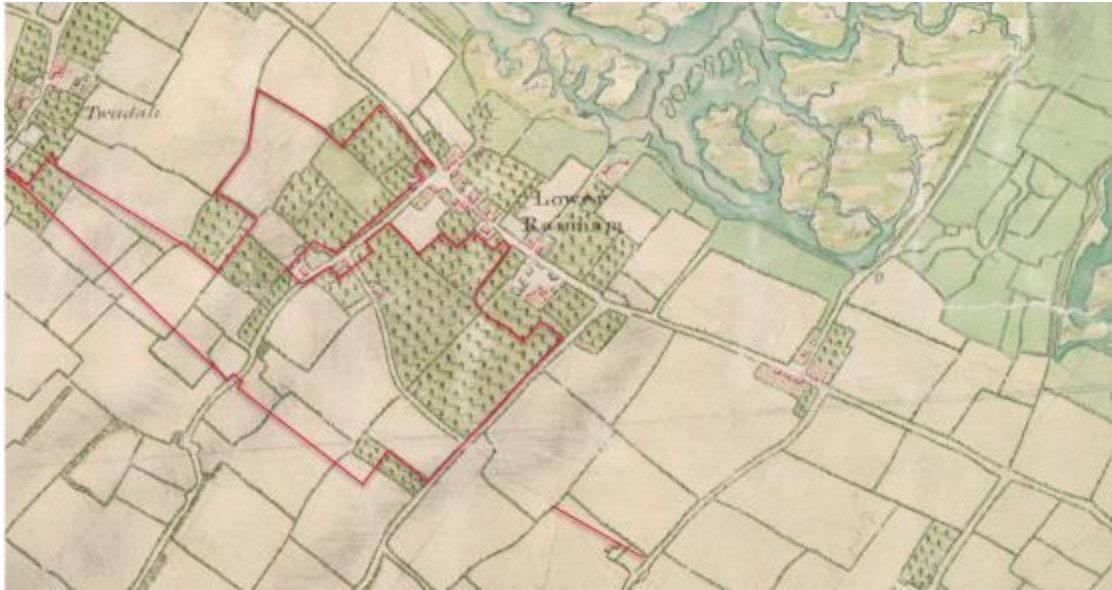


Figure 5: Ordnance Surveyors Drawing, 1797



Figure 6: 1838 Tithe Map

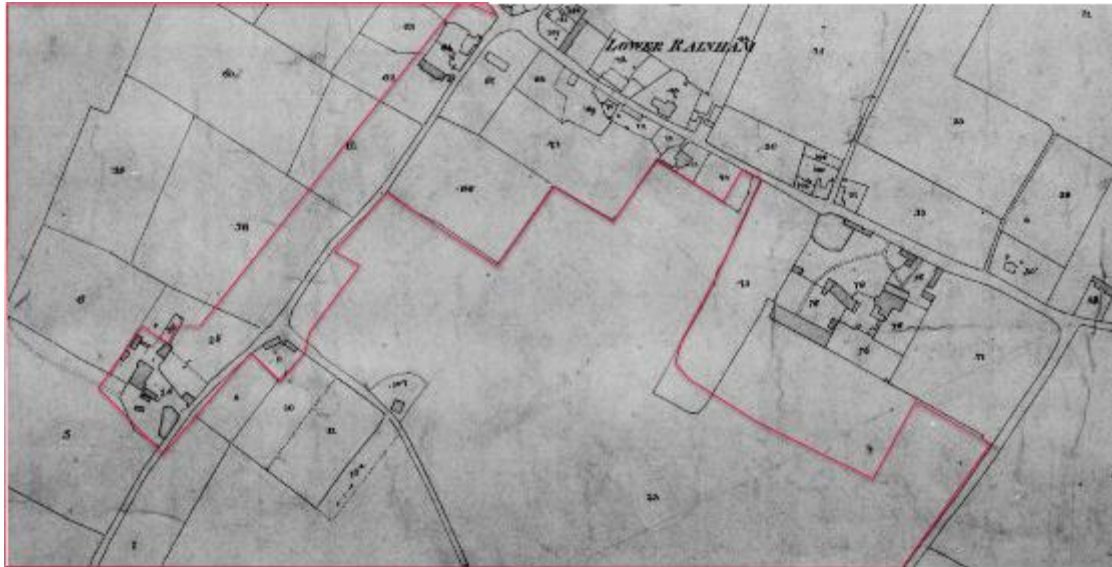


Figure 7: 1838 Tithe Map (close up)

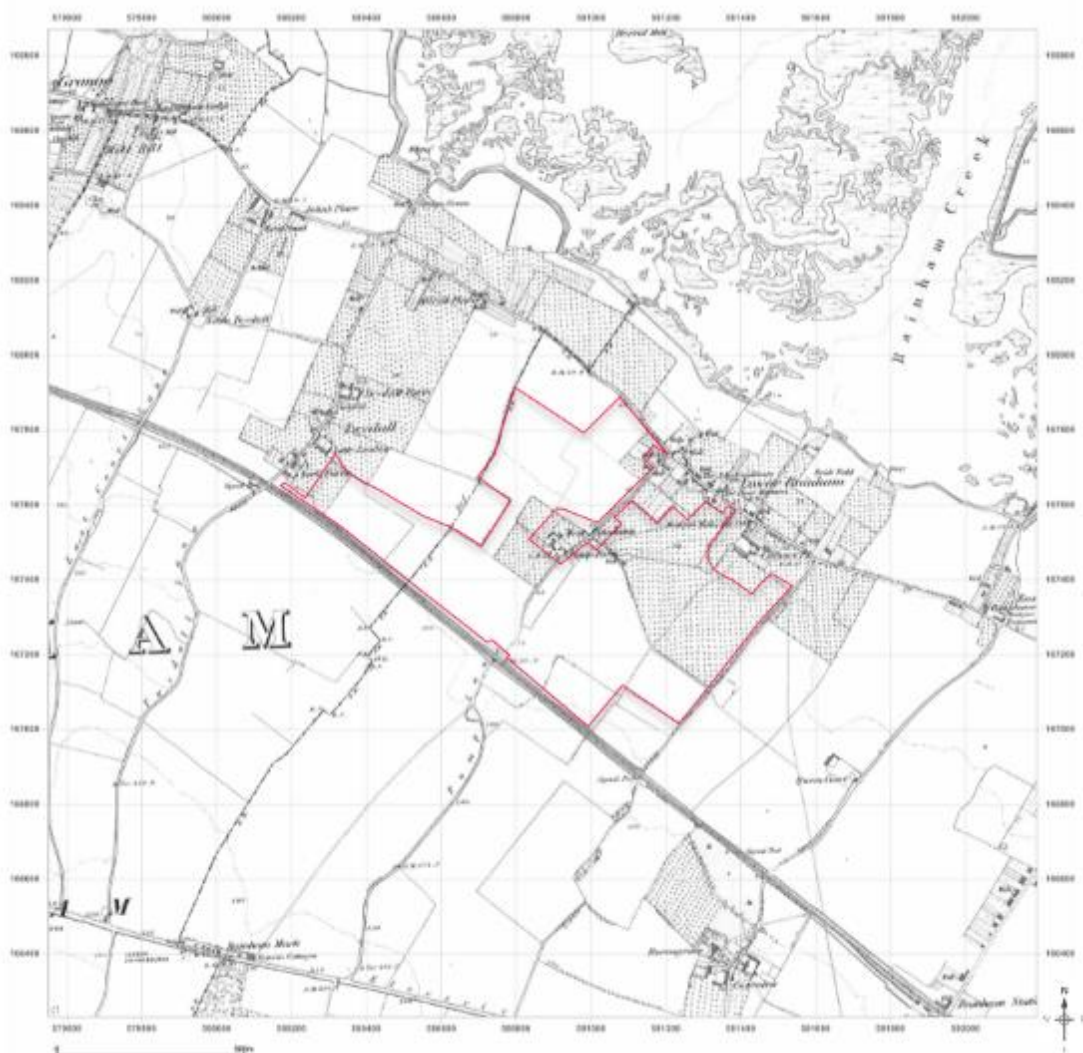


Figure 8: Historic OS Map 1865 1:10560

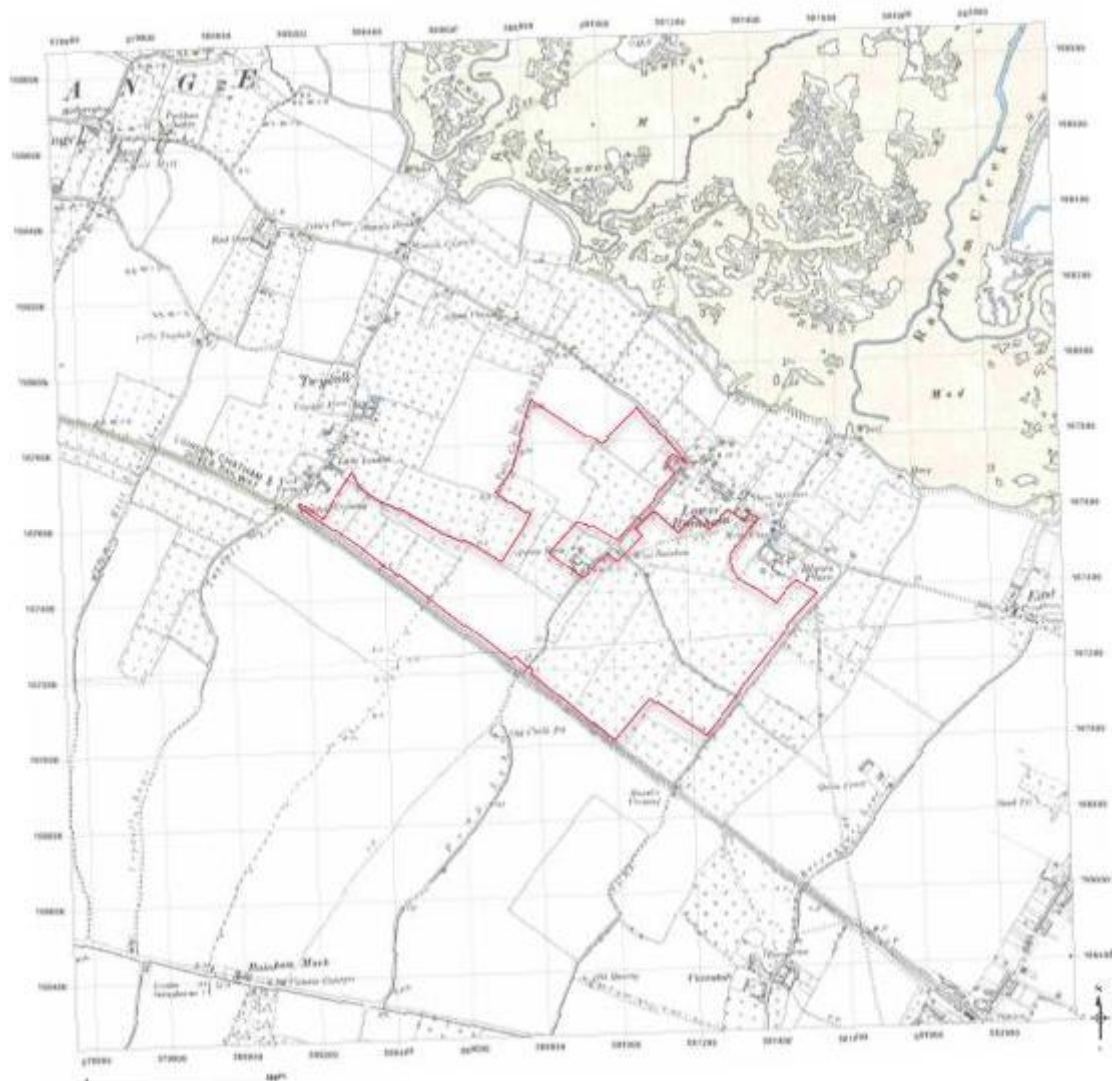


Figure 9: Historic OS Map 1896 1:10560

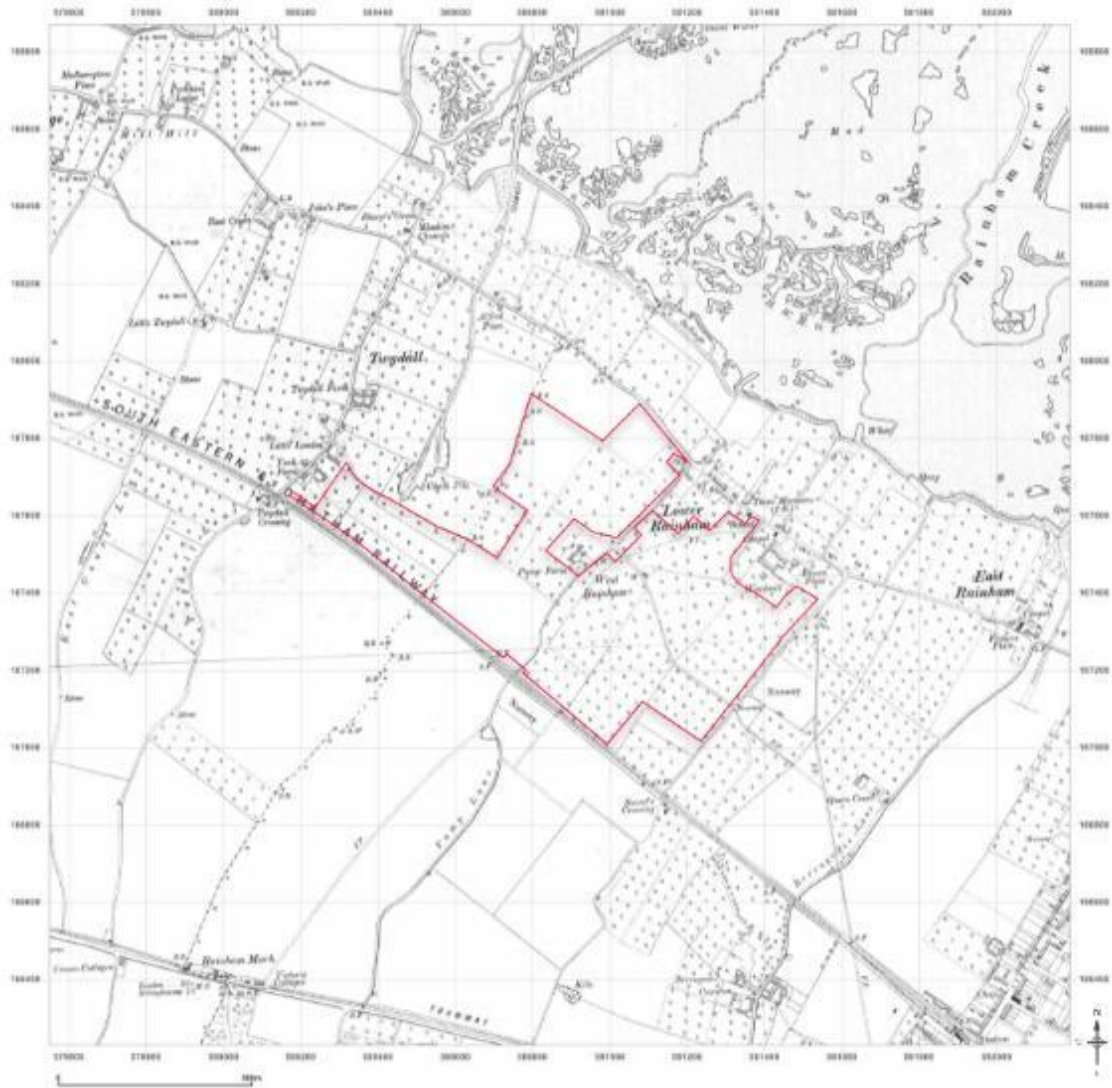


Figure 10: Historic OS Map 1906 1:10560

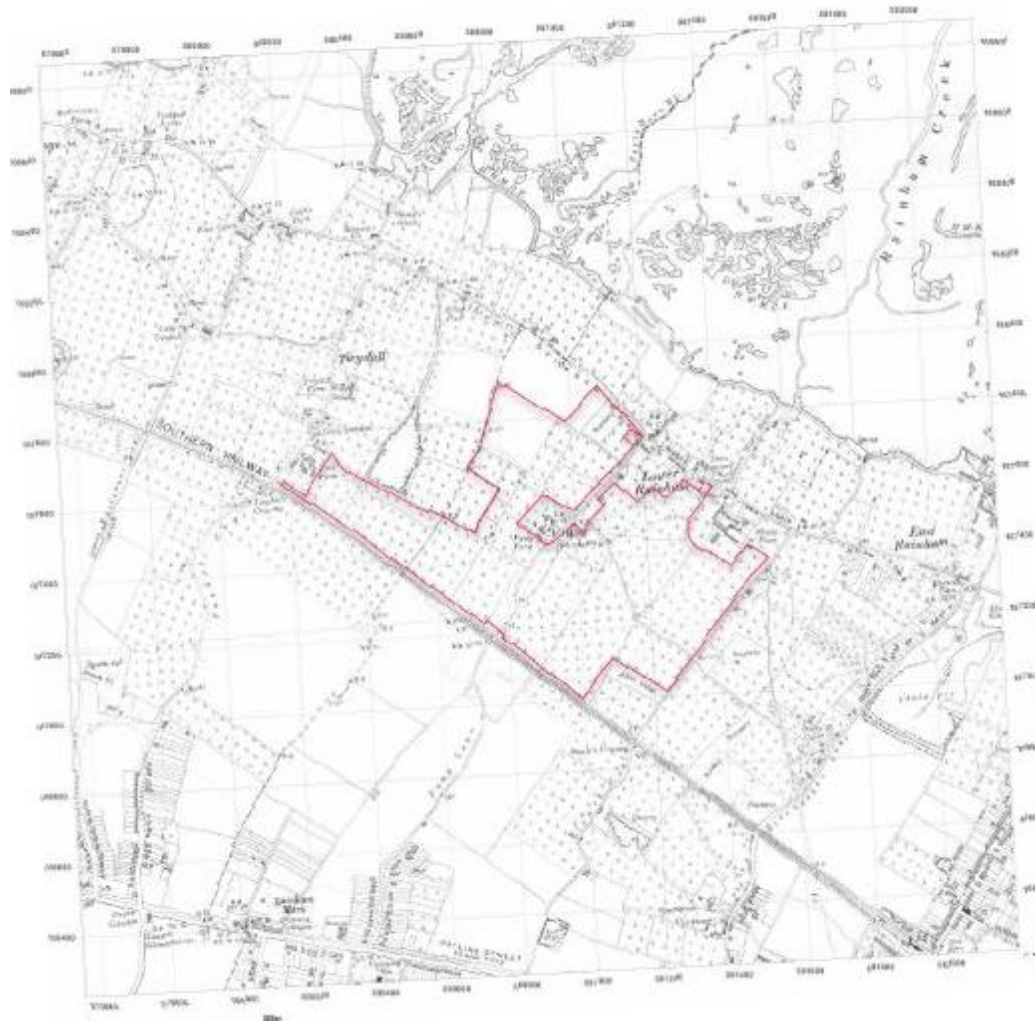


Figure 11: Historic OS Map 1931-1932 1:10560

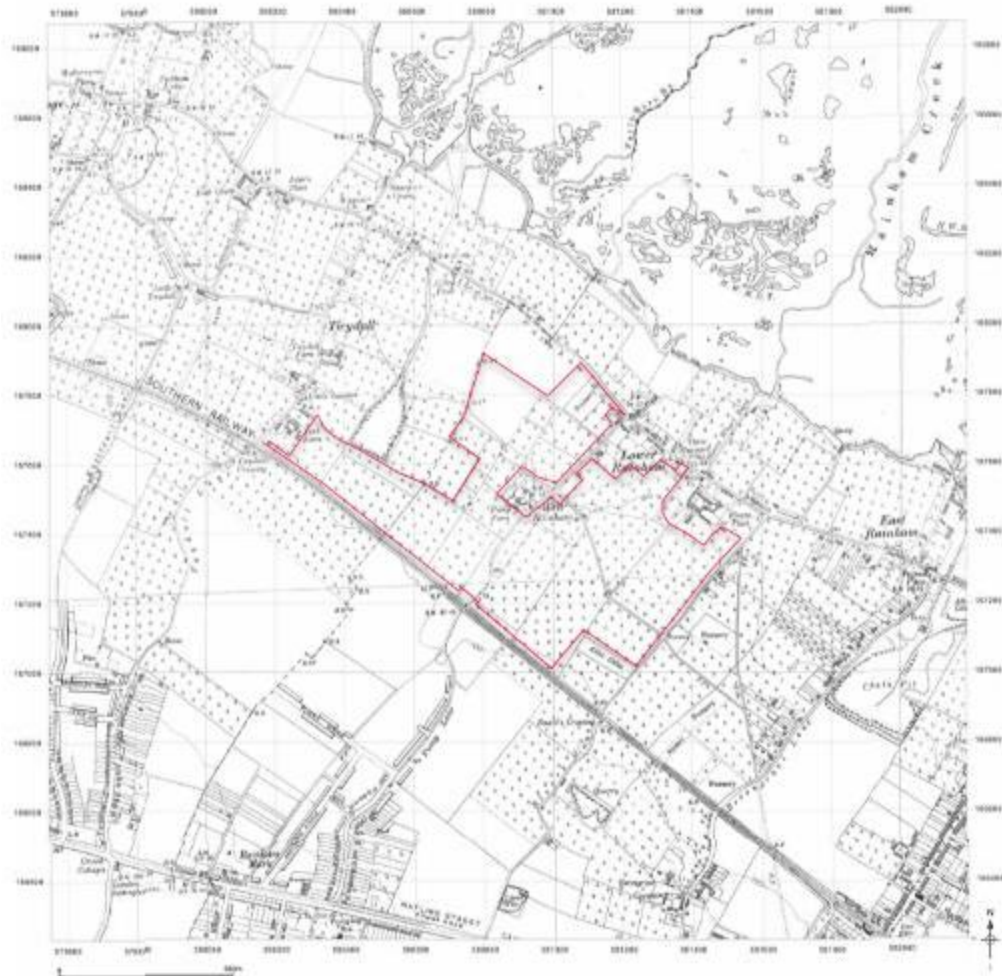


Figure 12: Historic OS Map 1938 1:10560



Figure 13: Historic OS Map from 1955-1958 1:10560



Figure 14: Historic OS Map 1967-1968 1:10,560



Figure 15: Historic OS Map 1973-1974 1:10000



Figure 16: Historic OS Map 1979-1983 1:10000

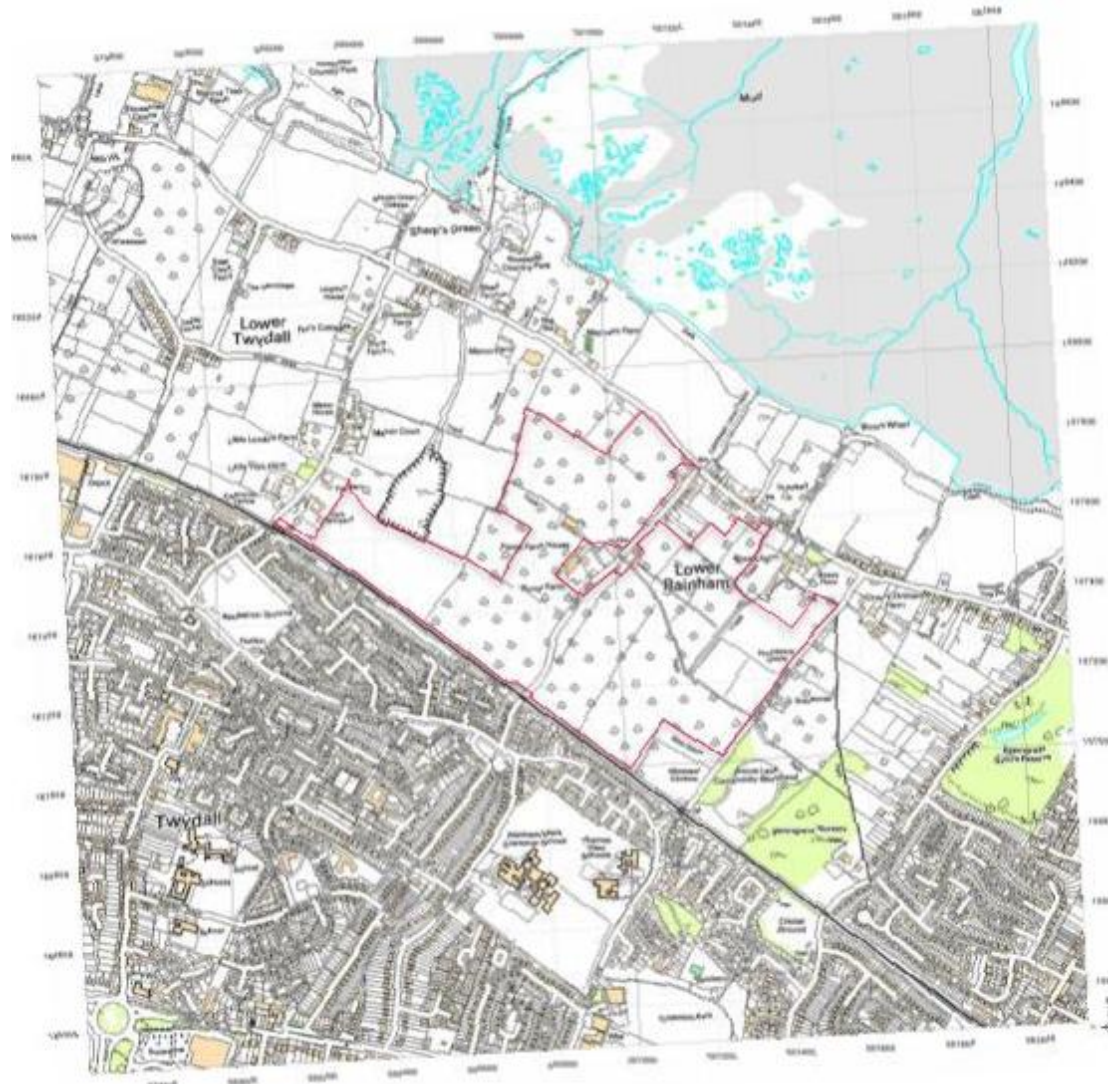


Figure 17: Historic OS Map 2002 1:10000

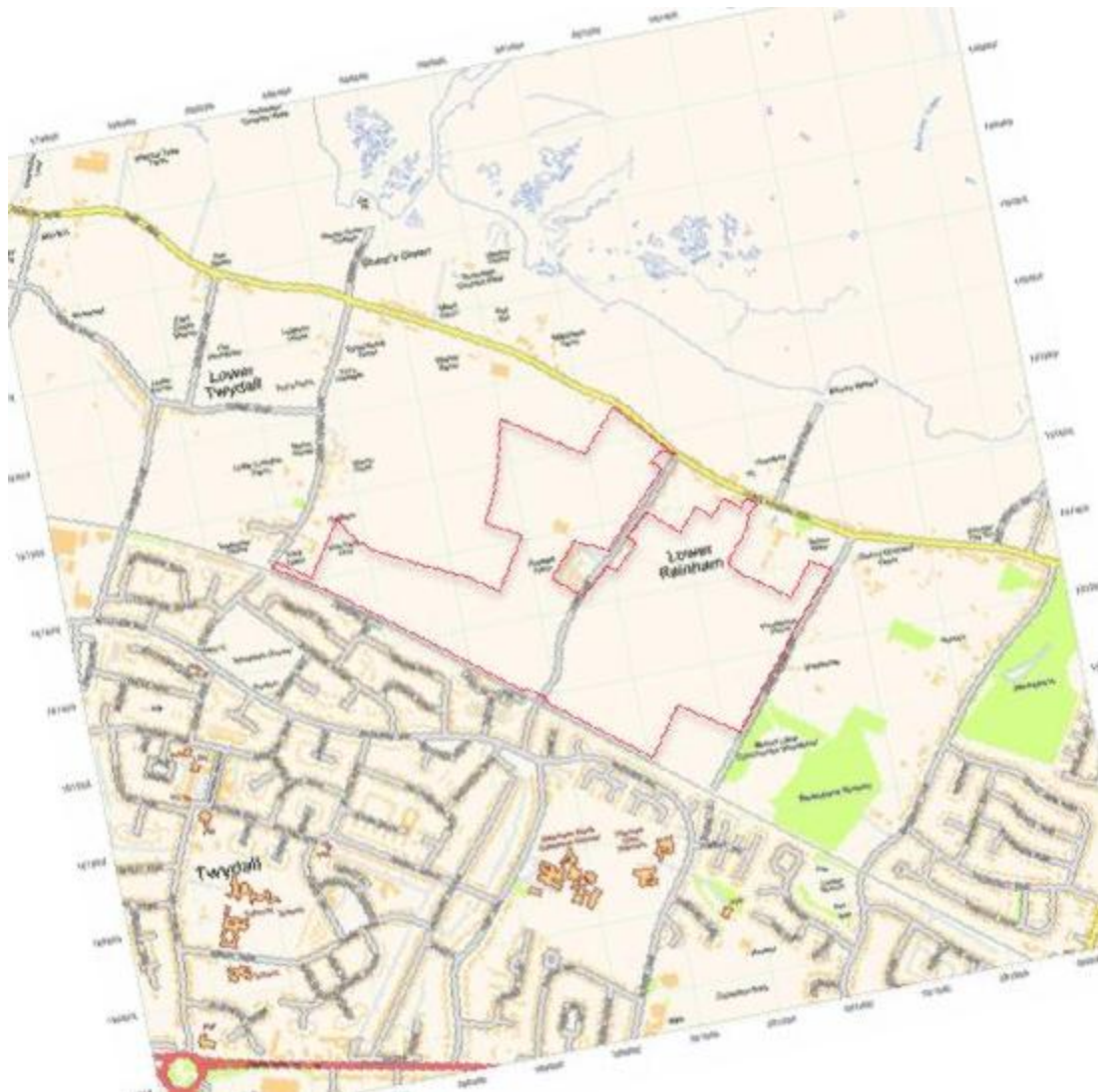


Figure 18: Historic OS Map 2010 1:10000

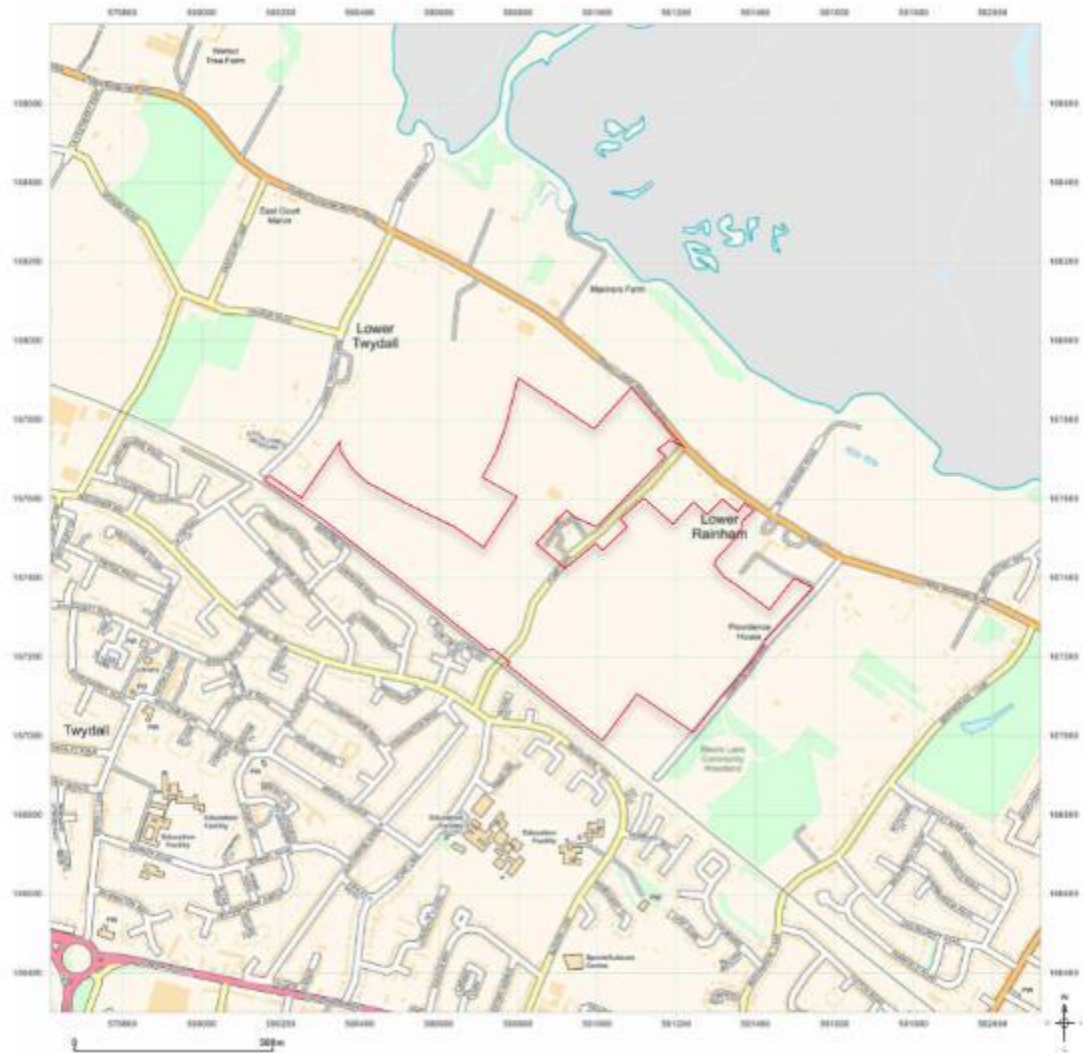


Figure 19: Historic OS Map 2014 1:10000

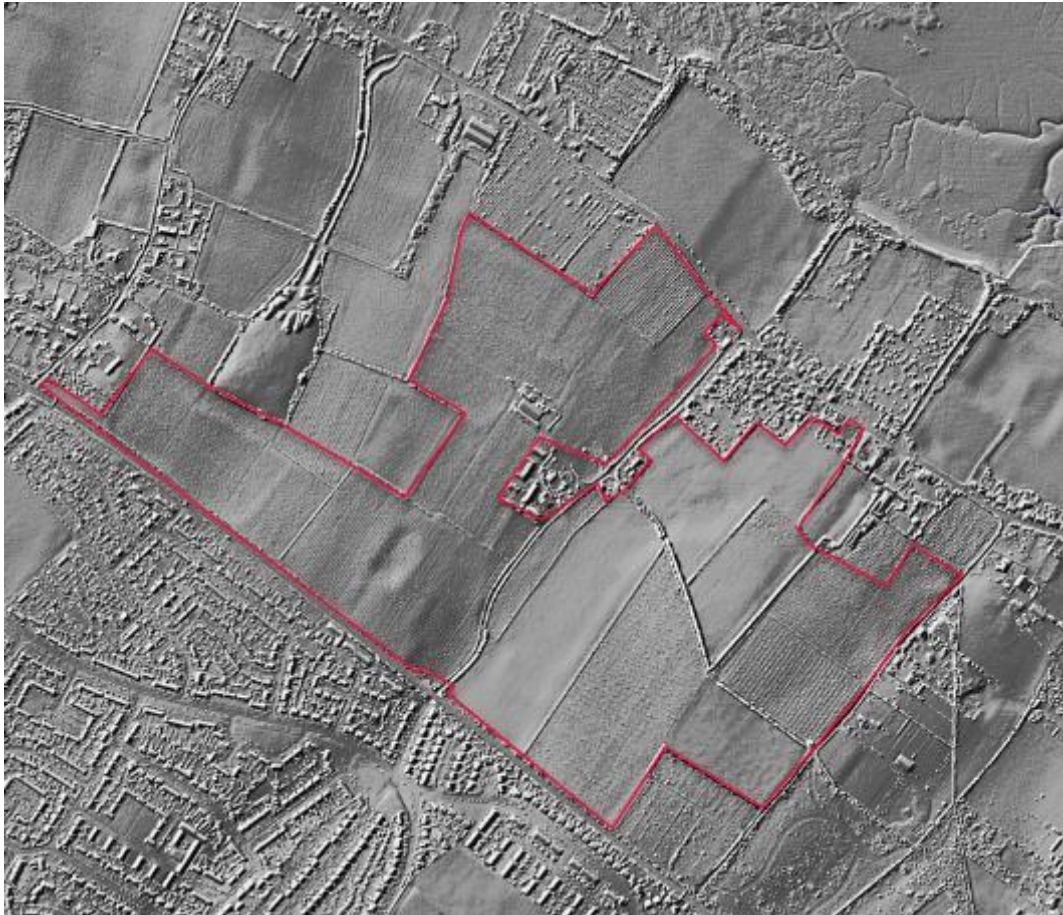


Figure 20: LIDAR DSM1m (Environment Agency)

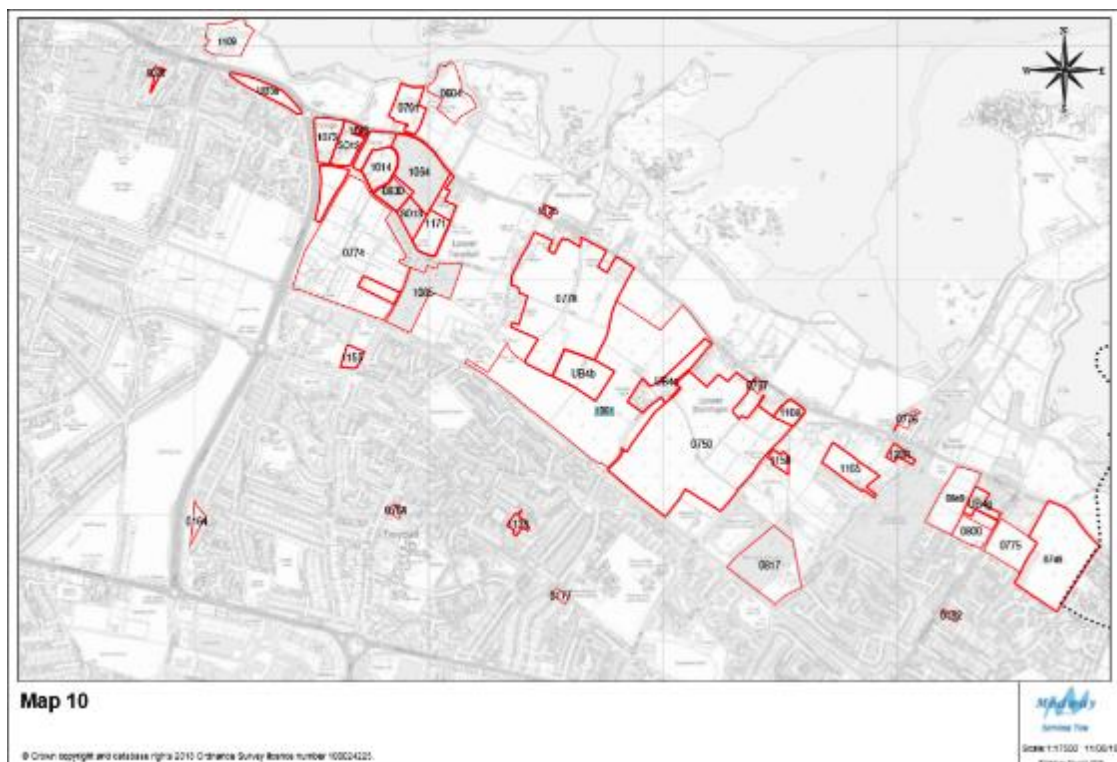


Figure 21: Medway Council Area – Areas of Strategic Land Availability Assessment

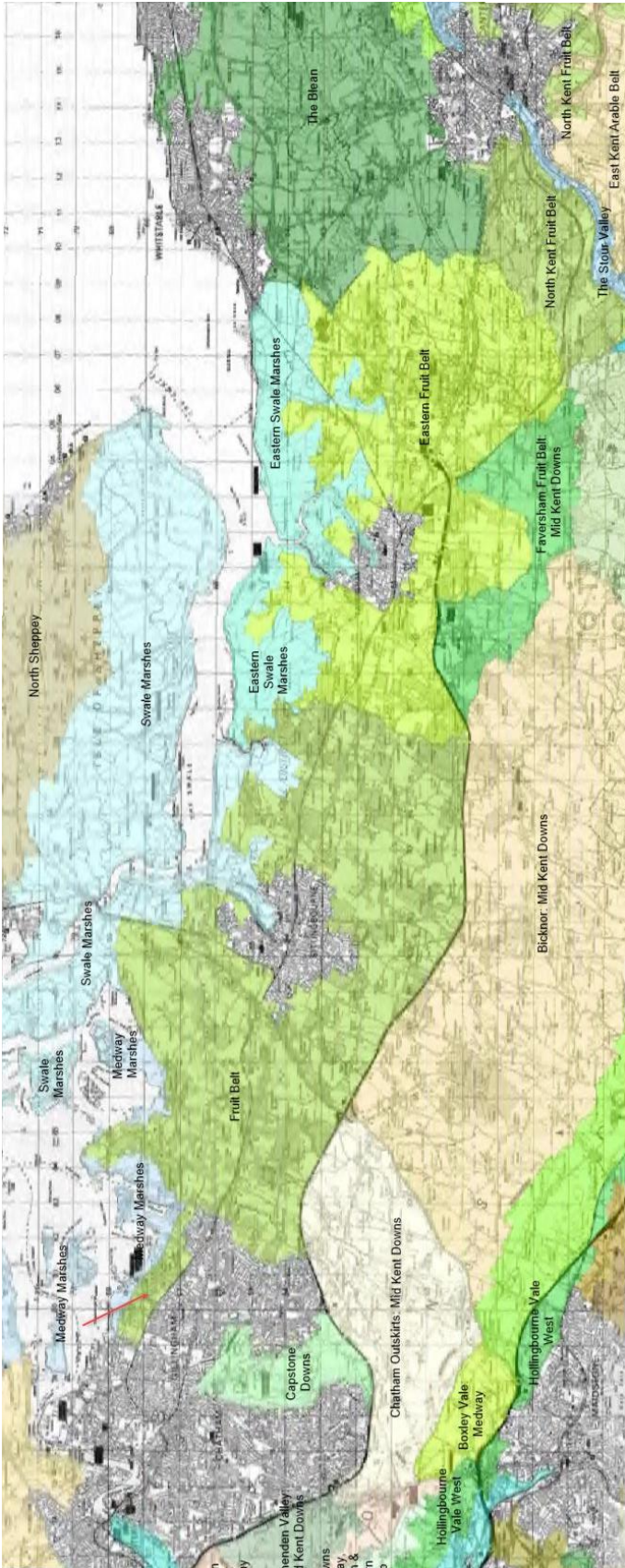


Figure 22: Kent Landscape Assessment

11 APPENDIX 1 – KCC HER DATA (SEE FIGURES 23-26)

KHER	Type	Location	Period	Description
	HLC			The PDA is in an area characterised by KCC Historic Landscape Characterisation of predominately orchards. The south western corner of the PDA is classed as 'small regular with straight boundaries (parliamentary type enclosure)'. The PDA also sits within an area characterised as Historic Landscape Character Assessment 17 – Northern Horticultural Belt.
TQ 86 NW 1	Findspot	Exact Position Unknown - In the vicinity of the PDA - N	Early Medieval/ Anglo-Saxon	A 5th century Merovingian coin, found in Lower Rainham in a plantation near the south side of the Lower Rainham Road. The precise date of discovery or present whereabouts of this artefact are uncertain.
TQ 86 NW 3	Monument	Exact Position Unknown – In the vicinity of the PDA -N	Roman	Roman pottery, including Samian ware; found near the chalk pit at Lower Rainham. The assemblage included 10 Roman pots, 3 paterae of local Upchurch ware, and a flask and urn of red unglazed ware. It is suspected that this discovery may have been the remains of a cremation burial. The present whereabouts of the finds is now uncertain. Found early 20 th century.
TQ 86 NW 4	Findspot	Adjacent to PDA -W	Lower Palaeolithic to Late Neolithic	Abundant Palaeolithic finds from the foreshore near Sharps Green, originating from terrace deposits at Twydall Chalk Pit that originally capped the chalk, but which were then removed and used to create a causeway to a wharf at Horrid Hill in early 20th century. The causeway (repeatedly washed by tides) has subsequently been a very prolific source of Palaeolithic artefacts (as well as some from post Palaeolithic periods). Many hundreds of artefacts have entered numerous museum collections, particularly the British Museum and

				Dartford Museum, including those documented by Roe as both Twydall and Sharps Green (3). Numerous private collectors also have substantial collections including many fine handaxe and flake-tool specimens. Evans also reports a surface find from the locality before quarrying had started (4). Site is in the Southern Rivers Palaeolithic Project (5, 6). Site has been subject to some recent archaeological consideration
TQ 86 NW 15	Findspot	Within PDA – assigned to a grid square	Neolithic	A polished stone axe, found at Bloor's Place, Rainham. This Neolithic axe was last known to be in Rochester Museum. No further information at present. Mentioned in a history of Gillingham in 1947.
TQ 86 NW 50	Findspot	Within PDA - SW	Mesolithic	Mesolithic blades and flakes, found near Pump Farm in Twydall, are now in Dartford Museum. The precise location at which these artefacts were found is unknown. No further information at present.
TQ 86 NW 1151	Listed Building	Adjacent to PDA - N	Medieval	Chapel House, Pump Lane (west side). Grade II listed (1259635). House, now two. Mid-late 15 th century, altered early-mid 16 th century, altered early 20 th century. Timber-framed, rendered rear and weatherboarded left-hand end, with a large right-hand brick external stack, rear left-hand gable stack and rear central external stack, and a half hipped tiled roof with left-hand hipped cross range. PLAN: 3room parallel plan with a right-hand rear outshut to No.1. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys, attic and basement; 9-window range. A close-studded front has a continuous jettied first-floor in three sections, the left-hand one projecting and with a jettied return, and a hipped roof front and rear. Mostly late C16 windows with flanking clerestory windows, blocked on the first floor, mostly C19 casements; right-hand and left side of middle section have groundfloor 3-light transom and mullion windows with small flanking lights, with C20 first-floor window above; left-hand window

				range section has C19 cross windows, and a curved brace with a moulded base to the corner post. Large right-hand stack has offset toward the front and ridge section of roof connecting to the house; to the rear is a plain C20 door, with C20 windows above and to the side of the outshut. Left-hand return is weatherboarded to upper floor, with C20 windows, and a rear C20 extension with a gable stack and C20 door. Rear has a central single-storey gable with a stack, and a shallow raking dormer to the attic. INTERIOR: not inspected.
TQ 86 NW 177	Findspot	c. 470m SE	Mesolithic/ Neolithic / Bronze Age	A large quantity of worked flints were found during trial trenching in work in 1996 in advance of development at Berengrave Nursery. The finds included an awl, scrapers, notched flakes, blades and cores of late Neolithic/Bronze Age date. There were also some blades of possible Mesolithic date.
TQ 86 NW 1152	Listed Building	Adjacent to PDA - central	Post Medieval	Pump Farmhouse, Pump Lane. Grade II listed (1259637). Farmhouse. Late C18, extended and remodelled early C20. Rendered brick with brick end lateral stacks and a left-hand rear external stack, and a tiled hipped roof. PLAN: double-depth plan with right-hand single-room extension. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys; 3:1-window range. Double-fronted, a timber doorcase with a small canopy and door with 6 flush panels, late C20 15/15-pane ground-floor and three 9/9-pane sashes; similar right-hand 1window block with matching glazing. INTERIOR: altered, contains a central C20 dogleg stair, rear fireplace with possibly re-set 4-centre arched bressumer.
TQ 86 NW 1147	Listed Building	c. 70m NE	Medieval	Nos.497, 499 AND 501, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1259732). House, later shop, now 3 houses. Late C15, remodelled C17; later rear ranges; refenestrated and altered mid-late C19. Timber-framed, roughcast with brick external end and rear stacks and tiled hipped roof. PLAN: open hall house, with high end cross-

				wing (No.499), remodelled with inserted floor and stacks in C17. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys; 5-window range. No.497 has right-hand C20 door, 6/6-pane ground-floor and tripartite first-floor sashes; No.499 has central door with small canopy and flanking C19 small-paned shop window with cornice and paired first floor casement; No.501 with a central doorway with mid C20 door, tripartite flanking ground-floor windows and central and left-hand 2/2-pane sash. Right-hand return has a large stack with offsets each side and small flanking windows and a rear hipped C19 porch. Left-hand rear extension. INTERIOR: reported as having undershot cross passage with one service door still visible. Fine crown post with octagonal post and cap and square base. Moulded low end beam remains. Staircase added and floor inserted in the C17.
TQ 86 NW 1156	Listed Building	c. 60m NE	Medieval	The Old House, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1267776). House. C15, altered late C16. Timber-framed with plaster infill, limestone rubble and brick, with a brick ridge stack and tiled hipped roof with right-hand cross wing. PLAN: Wealden-type plan, with a lobby entry when the stack was inserted, and right-hand service room under catslide. EXTERIOR: Wealden frame with large square panels and C20 leaded lattice lights. Left-hand section jettied to front and end with curved corner brackets, a larger one on the corner and 2-light first-floor casement; left-hand return has ground-floor compression braces and first-floor tension braces, and central casements to each floor. Central former hall range set back beneath the eaves with a central curved brace, a mortice in the wall plate from a former diagonal left-hand brace, and a tension brace in the left-hand bay, former central doorway in line with the stack, 2 outer 3-light ground-floor casements and a right-hand first-floor casement, some with diamond-section mullions. Right-hand cross wing set forward with jettied upper floor, and a left-hand buttress

				or former chimney, stone below and brick above; 3-light casements, larger on the ground floor. Brick service range on the right-hand return under a catslide roof. INTERIOR: not inspected, but reported as having octagonal crown post roof and dragon beam to south-west corner.
TQ 85 SE 300	Monument	Adjacent to PDA - S	Post Medieval	Chatham and Dover Railway. Also known as the Chatham Line. In 1853 the East Kent Railway Company was inaugurated and authorised to build an extension from the North Kent Line at Strood to Canterbury, with an extension to Faversham Quay, and another branch to join the South Eastern at Chilham, (the latter was never made). The Chatham - Faversham section was opened in January 1858, and extended to Strood across the new Medway Bridge in March. The Faversham Goods Quay branch opened in 1860. The line was single and operated 6 small Hawthorn class locomotives. In 1855 the company won approval to extend to Dover via Shepherds Well, which was opened in 1861, and in 1858 won further approval to create a new line between Strood and London via St Mary's Cray. Thence, via the Mid Kent Line, and the West of London and Crystal Palace Line, it terminated at Victoria.
MKE 66595	Findspot	Within PDA - S	Medieval to Post Medieval	Portable Antiquities Scheme find - Medieval copper alloy seal matrix. Oval in shape Found in 2002 by metal detector.
MKE 84967	Farmstead	Adjacent to PDA - central	Post Medieval	Pump Farm. Loose courtyard with working agricultural buildings on three sides and with additional detached elements to the main plan Farmhouse: Farmhouse detached in central position Position: Isolated position Survival: Altered - significant loss of original form (more than 50%) Notes: Oast
TQ 86 NW 2	Findspot	c. 300m NW	Roman	Roman mortarium and pot, from the saltings, near Sharp's Green. Identified as of the "bead and roll" variety and as a small Roman flask of black pottery. No further information as to the exact provenance and present whereabouts of these finds.

TQ 86 NW 51	Findspot	c. 70m S	Post Medieval	17th and 18th century pottery, found near Twydall. In January 1972, while on a project to survey the Lower Palaeolithic f5.8.2lint industry of Gillingham, a field which had been recently ploughed was walked and a small quantity of 17th and 18th century pottery was found. Site now thought to have been developed as a housing area.
TQ 86 NW 52	Findspot	c. 300m SW	Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age socketed axe, found in Twydall. In November 1978, Mr L Clayton found a Late Bronze Age socketed axe in his garden. It is a small (length 2 1/2in, weight 55gr.) example of the plain south-eastern type found in hoards of the Carp's Tongue complex, dated to the eighth and seventh centuries BC.
TQ 86 NW 178	Findspot	c. 400m SW	Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age axe, found at 67 Hollingbourne Road, Twydall. Found 1978. The axe was dated by type to the 8th or 7th centuries BC. Its present whereabouts are uncertain.
TQ 86 NW 1083	Monument	c. 300m N	Unknown	Group of possible rectangular cuts in the saltmarsh near Sharpe's Green. Identified from aerial photographs - no further information at present.
TQ 86 NW 56	Monument	c. 500m E	Roman	Site of a Romano-British pottery kiln observed in the 19 th century. Exact location unknown.
TQ 86 NW 1057	Monument	c. 200m N	Unknown	Square pit on foreshore - not marked on any of the Ordnance Survey historic maps but in close proximity to a hardway marked on the 1st and 2nd editions (c.1858-1898). It is thought that this pit may be the remains of an oyster bed
TQ 86 NW 1038	Monument	c. 500m NW	Unknown	A fish weir/trap of unknown date, identified from aerial photographs taken in 1947. There is no trace of such a structure on any of the Ordnance Survey historic edition maps but the natural topography would indicate this to be a suitable spot for such a trap.
TQ 86 NW 1018	Monument	c. 500m NE	Post Medieval	Wharf at Lower Rainham marked on a chart of the Medway from 1835. This structure is also visible on the Ordnance Survey historic

				edition maps (1858-1940). This has now been significantly extended into the Bloors Wharf.
TQ 86 NW 1019	Monument	c. 300m ENE	Post Medieval	Wharf at Lower Rainham marked on a chart of the Medway from 1835. There is a quay marked at this location on the Ordnance Survey historic edition maps (1858-1940).
TQ 86 NW 1034	Monument	c. 500m NNE	Unknown	Possible fish weir of unknown date identified from aerial photographs. Located on the edge of the shore at the Riverside Country Park near Lower Rainham. No further information at present.
TQ 86 NW 1033	Monument	c. 300m N	Unknown	A circular embankment at Riverside Country Park of unknown function, identified in aerial photographs on saltmarsh. There is no trace of this on any of the Ordnance Survey historic edition maps.
TQ 86 NW 200	Listed Building	c. 150m NW	Post Medieval	Black House, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1267773). Farmhouse, worker's cottage, converted and derelict at time of survey. Early-mid 17th century with mid-19th century windows. Timber-frame clad in weatherboarding with brick end wall, and corrugated-iron roof hipped to west end. PLAN: Two-bay hall house, originally with smoke bay at east end. EXTERIOR: Two-storey; irregular fenestration. North front has one mid-19th century square casement but others are concealed by weatherboarding. The structure appears to be the two surviving bays of a three-bay house. Opening at first-floor level on north front indicates that the west first-floor room was used for storage. Behind the weatherboarding is the substantially intact frame of a three-bay 17th century farmhouse.
TQ 86 NW 201	Monument	c. 150m NW	Medieval	Medieval domestic occupation, Lower Rainham Road. Beneath the floors of a post-medieval timber-framed building (TQ 86 NW 200) were found part of a ditch and a possible pit of medieval date, indicating domestic occupation on or near this site.

TQ 86 NW 202	Findspot	c. 150m NW	Early Medieval or Anglo-Saxon	Early medieval pottery, Lower Rainham Road, Sharp's Green. A single sherd of Ipswich ware, 725 - 850 AD found in a later medieval feature. Although intrusive it possibly indicates occupation of this date nearby.
TQ 86 NW 205	Findspot	Within/adjacent to PDA - NE	Palaeolithic	Palaeolithic handaxes (12) and debitage (8) from Mr J. Stewart's Fields, Bloor Place. Surface finds by H Stopes and others in the late 19th C.
TQ86 NW 1174	Listed Building	c. 50m W	Medieval	Little London Farmhouse, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259706). House. Late C15-early C16, altered C17, C19 rear range. Timber-frame on a flint plinth, partly brick, render and weatherboard, brick left-hand external gable and rear lateral stacks, with a tiled roof. PLAN: 3-room parallel plan with a right-hand lean-to and a C19 rear service range. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys; 3-window range. Flint plinth, rendered ground floor and close-studded first floor with end tension braces and 2 cills to small blocked late C16 clerestory windows under the eaves; C17 English bond left-hand gable and right-hand weatherboard gable. A C20 bracketed timber canopy with a hipped roof to the right of the left-hand window and boarded door; left-hand 8/8pane sash in exposed frame, central and right-hand C20 casements, first-floor C19 casements and central 3/6pane sash. Right-hand lean-to has raking roof and C19 timber-framed half gable. Lower rear wing encloses a lateral stack, with a gabled stair tower in the left-hand angle, and a late C20 conservatory linked to a rear C19 brick and tile service extension. INTERIOR: not inspected. A retaining wall in the cellar contains the capital of a column (the shaft of which is within the garden) which may have come from the chantry chapel built by John Beafits from Twydall Manor House in 1433 and demolished in 1756.
TQ 86 NW 1153	Listed Building	c. 200m W	Medieval to Post Medieval	Manor Barn and attached north and west walls, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259709). Barn, now house. C16 and C17 with

				C18 and other extensions. Timber-framed with weatherboarding, and tiled half hipped roof. PLAN: rectangular. EXTERIOR: single storey; 5-window range. Original cart entrance left of centre now glazed, inserted C20 glazing to ground and first floors. Rear roof descends lower. INTERIOR: a 6-bay frame with 2 tiers of posts, original ones to the upper level, and original large braces in 1st, 2nd, 5th and 6th bays; roof not seen but known to have survived. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached flint wall with brick coping and piers to N and W. Group value with Twydall Barn
TQ 86 NW 1146	Listed Building	c. 100m W	Post Medieval	Manor House and attached garden wall, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259712). Farmhouse. Late C17-early C18, extended C18 and late C19. Brick, mathematical tile side range, with brick gable and lateral stacks, and tiled roof. PLAN: L-shaped single-depth plan with C18 N extension, and late C19 S extension. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys; road front 3-window range. Complex of various builds; Flemish bond road front has a moulded plat band, with a left-hand boarded door, and rubbed brick flat arches to 8/8-pane sashes in flush frames; the late C19 right-hand 1-window section has a lower end with paired gables with raised kneelers and central blind windows to both floors, extending half the depth of the end gable which has brick coping, a 6/6-pane attic sash with a flush frame, and a large exterior stack part enclosed by the extension. Rear wing has a straight joint in from the header bond rear gable, which has a stack, brick coping, the bond extending up to a straight joint, from which Flemish bond extends to the front range. At the N end is third section set forward from the main entrance, of C18 header bond with 2 ground-floor windows and a lateral stack, and a canted oriel in the left-hand return with 8/8-pane and flanking 4/4-pane sashes. The rear has a gabled dormer with 8/8-pane sash. INTERIOR: not inspected. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached brick wall with coped

				top extending approx. 100m round garden to N. The N section has battered buttresses. HISTORY: formerly the farmhouse accompanying the other listed farm buildings, including the fine C15 Twydall Barn (qv), with which it has group value.
TQ 86 NW 1145	Listed Building	c. 100m W	Medieval	Twydall Barn and attached wall, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259714). Barn, now house. C15, converted c1985. Timber-frame with weatherboarding and brick plinth and a tiled half-hipped roof. PLAN: rectangular 5-bay plan, formerly with central threshing floor. EXTERIOR: single storey; 7window range. A tall central former cart entrance with a hipped projecting canopy, now glazed, with 6 small inserted windows and C20 roof lights. Boarded doors at E end. INTERIOR: contains a fine 5-bay aisled frame with a crown post roof with stopped and chamfered crown posts with four upward braces each; arcade posts and low outer wall posts and jowls, arcade plate and tie beam braces, aisle braces and rails. SUBSIDIARY FEATURES: attached flint and brick wall enclosing E yard.
TQ 86 NW 1144	Listed Building	c. 20m W	Medieval to Post Medieval	York Farmhouse, Lower Twydall Lane. Grade II listed (1259716). House. C16 with C17, C18 and C19 additions. Timber-framed, elevations encased in red and blue brick in C19, rendered to right on 1st floor of east front of main block and north gable end of main block. Plain tiled roofs. East front: end stacks to right and left to main block, that to right projecting but encased in C19 extension. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys and garrets with 1-storey extension to right. 2-window front to main block, with irregular fenestration of casements on 1st floor, and glazing bar sash to left and polygonal bay to right on ground floor. 1 window to right-hand extension. Central half-glazed door with wooden C19 weather-porch to main block. Irregular rear elevation with C17 wing to rear of main block and C19 2-storey wing to left. INTERIOR: substantial timber frame

				evident with heavy jowled posts and braces. Moulded beams inside main block. Side-purlin rafter roof with collars.
TQ 86 NW 1148	Listed Building	c. 30m NE	Medieval to Post Medieval	Bloors Place, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II* listed (1267763). Hall house, now house. 1470-1510, for Christopher Bloor, rear wing early C16 truncated and rebuilt late C17, partly destroyed by C18 fire. MATERIALS: timber-frame, clad in red brick to ground floor and tile-hung above, galleated limestone rubble rear wing extended in English bond brick, and the right in Flemish bond brick, brick rear external stacks, and a tall octagonal stack with crenellated cap to the rear wing extension, and a hipped roof with left-hand gable. PLAN: Wealden-type 3-room hall house of which the left-hand section destroyed in C18 fire, extended to rear C16. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys and attic; 4-window range. Former hall recessed at left-hand end has chamfered curved brackets from sides and projecting lateral beam under the overhanging eaves, a right-hand 4-centre arched moulded doorway with ribbed door and a rectangular overlight with margin panes, and a late C19 left-hand casement and first-floor casement over the entrance. Long right-hand bay refaced late C19 has C20 fenestration with a left-hand canted bay and mullion, and mullion and transom casements, with hipped dormers to the middle and left-hand return. A deep C20 weatherboarded eaves band extends along the front. The rear of the hall and the rear wing have C16 Perpendicular moulded stone mullion windows with shallow pointed heads and small panes. The hall has a rubble rear with a large external stack with a C19 starshaped shaft, and a wide 2-storey bay in the outer corner with a hipped roof, 3 ground-floor and 5 first-floor lights, the latter leaded casements, and to the inner side of the stack are single 2-light windows to each floor; the left-hand return a 1-window range with a C19 doorway with 4-pane overlight, C18 8/8-pane first-floor sash and a C20 attic casement.

				Rear wing has a weathered stone plat band, with 5 irregularly spaced windows to the E with an off-centre 4-centre-arched door with moulded surround and boarded door, and arched lights as the previous section; a C19 doorway as the end of the hall. The W side has 2 paired windows, that to the left higher to a possible stairwell, a single paired first-floor window, and a hipped dormer, with a flat-headed door in the window-less rear section. C20 lower porch and probable stair well in the SW re-entrant.
TQ 86 NW 1149	Listed Building	c. 20m NE	Post Medieval	Garden Walls to the south and east of Bloors Place. Grade II listed (1267767). Mid C17. English bond brick and limestone rubble and dressings. Brick walls have plinth and angled brick beneath a weathered brick coping, stone walls have a moulded stone 4-centre arched doorway. Walls enclose E garden and S. kitchen garden.
TQ 86 NW 1167	Listed Building	c. 20m NE	Post Medieval	Range of outbuildings including Cart Lodge and Granary west of Bloors Place, Lower Rainham Road. Grade II listed (1267769). Cart shed and granary with adjoining cattle shed converted to coach house. Probably C18 with late C19 alterations to cattle shed. The cattle shed has a late C19 or C20 roof. Red brick in various bonds and partly weatherboarded timber-frame, and tiled roof. PLAN: rectangular. EXTERIOR: 2-storey; 7-bay cart lodge has open ground floor with timber posts and small curved braces to wall plate and longer braces to inner posts, with first-floor granary weatherboarded with open central and right-hand doorways and small boarded windows between. Rear has a first-floor loft door and window, with ground-floor window with boarded shutters. Lower left-hand brick single storey former cattle shed probably originally open-fronted, now brick-fronted with a right-hand vehicle entrance and louvred window. INTERIOR: not inspected

MKE 84864	Farmstead	c. 400m NW	Post Medieval	Outfarm east of Sharp's Green. An outfarm or field barn group consisting of two detached buildings. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE 84865	Farmstead	c. 100m W	Post Medieval	Twydall Farm. Regular type farmstead with multi-yards. Farmhouse detached gable end onto yard. Altered with partial loss of form (less than 50%).
MKE 84866	Farmstead	c. 20m W	Post Medieval	York Farm. A regular courtyard plan farmstead with farmhouse detached in central position. Altered with significant loss of original form (more than 50%).
MKE 84867	Farmstead	c. 20m W	Post Medieval	Little London Farm. Loose courtyard plan farmstead with working agricultural buildings on two sides. Farmhouse detached in central position. No apparent alternation.
MKE 84868	Farmstead	c. 300m NW	Post Medieval	Farmstead north east of Twydall. Loose courtyard with agricultural buildings on one side with additional detached elements to the main plan. Farmhouse detached gable end onto yard. Altered with partial loss of original form (less than 50%).
MKE 84964	Farmstead	c. 250m E	Post Medieval	Queen Court. Regular L plan farmstead with detached house and other detached elements. Farmhouse detached in central position. Only the farmhouse remains.
MKE 84965	Farmstead	c. 400m S	Post Medieval	Outfarm on Pump Lane. Farmstead completely demolished.
MKE 84966	Farmstead	c. 30m NE	Post Medieval	Bloors Farm. Regular courtyard multi-yard. Farmhouse detached in central position. Altered with significant loss of original form (more than 50%).
MKE 88904	Farmstead	c. 100m E	Post Medieval	Outfarm south east of Bloors Farm. Farmstead completely demolished.
TQ 86 NW 1192	Monument	c. 300m S	Modern	Cozenton Park was first opened sometime after 1970. The area was predominantly orchards prior to this. The ordnance survey map of

				1875 shows the area as open fields, gradually converting to an orchard by 1952.
TQ 86 NW 1021	Monument	c. 50m NE	Post Medieval to Modern	Methodist Chapel, Lower Rainham Road. Site of a Methodist Chapel, Lower Rainham Road, Lower Rainham, the building is shown on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1862-1952, now demolished.
TQ 86 NW 1059	Monument	c. 400m NW	Post Medieval to Modern	St John's Mission Church, Sharp's Green, Lower Rainham Road. Was St John's Mission Church, attached to St Mary Magdalene at Gillingham Green. It was built in the 1880's and closed when the Church was built in the Twydall development during the 1950's

Current Areas of Archaeological Potential - Monuments

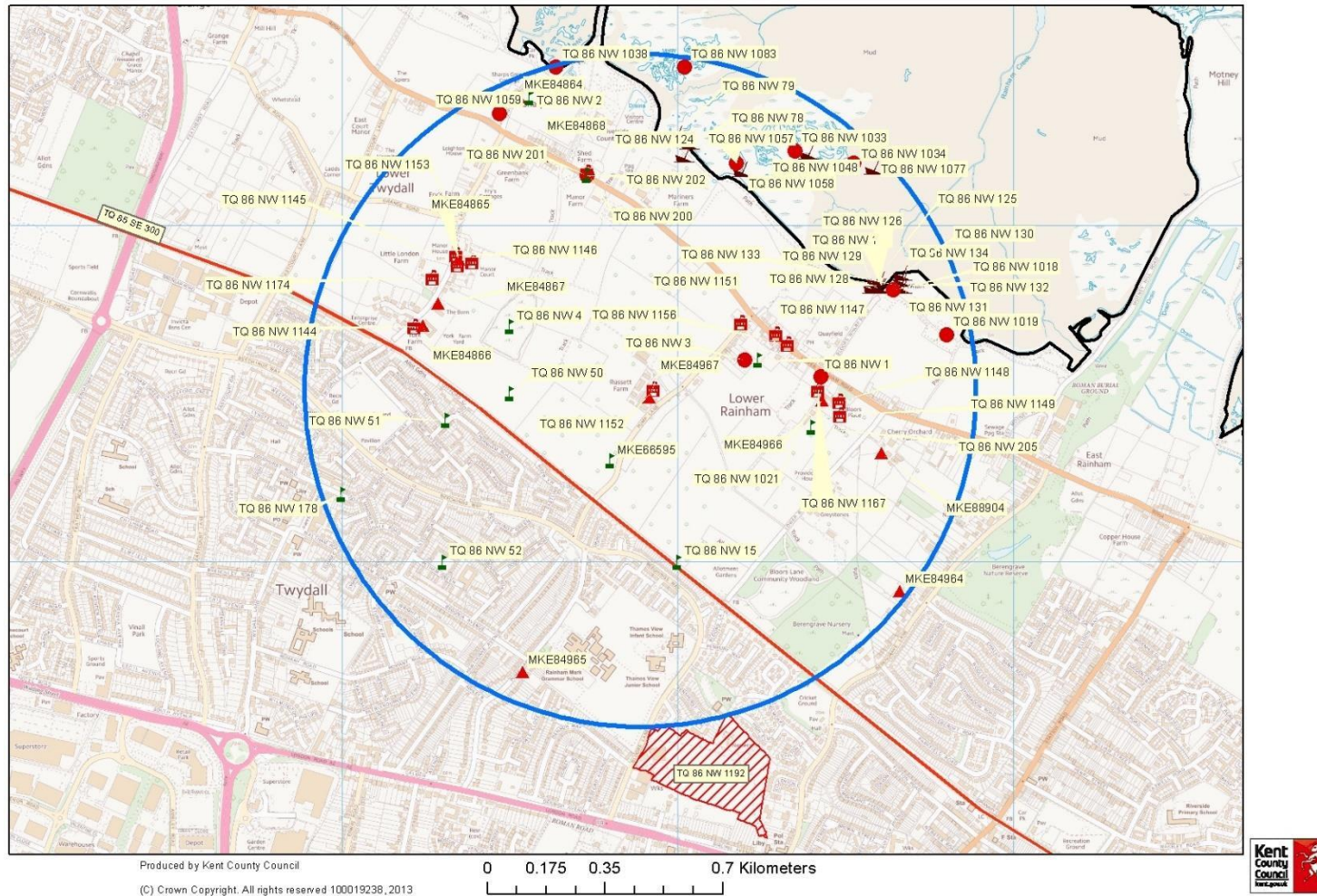
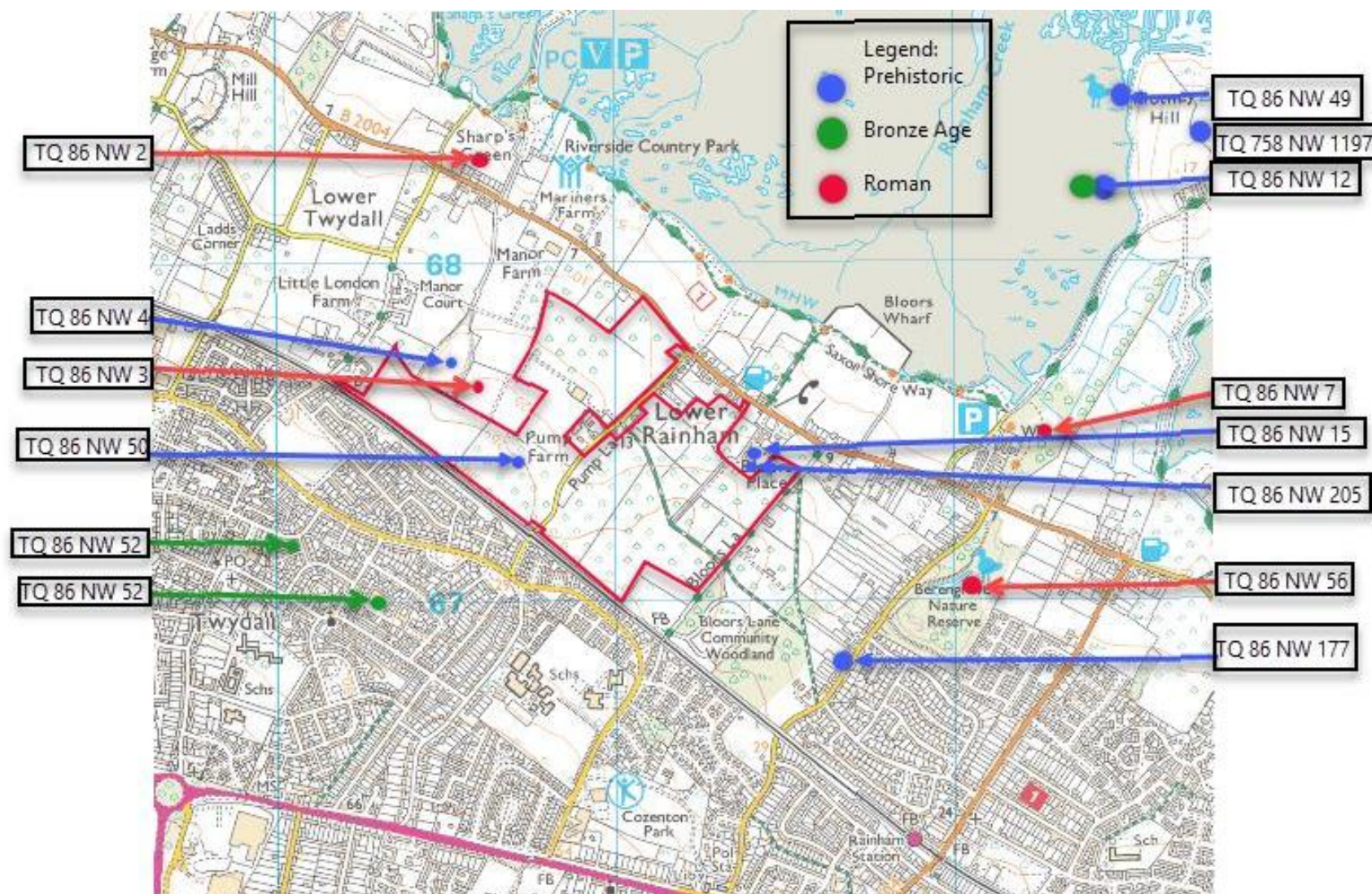
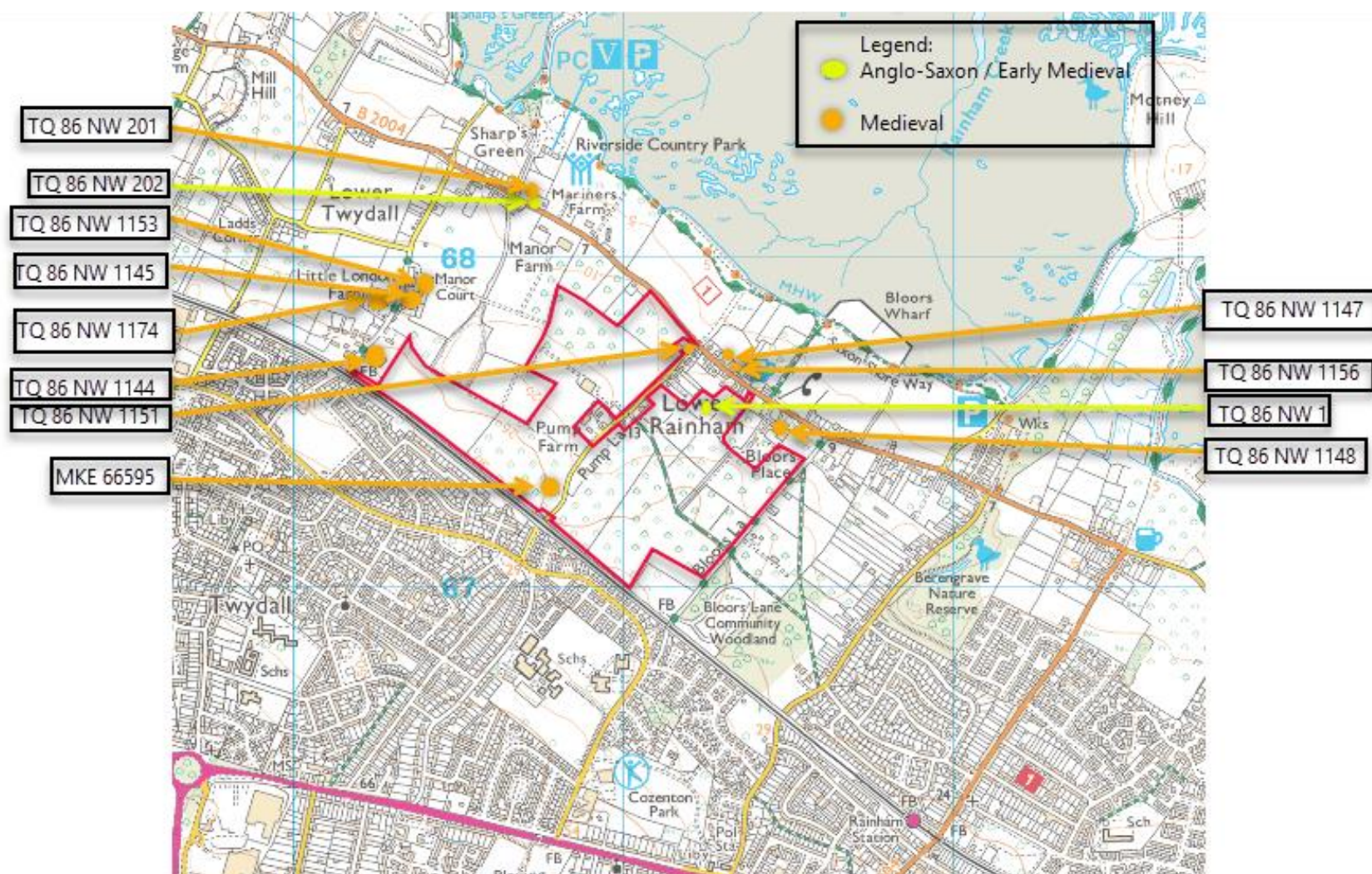


Figure 23: KHER Monument Record





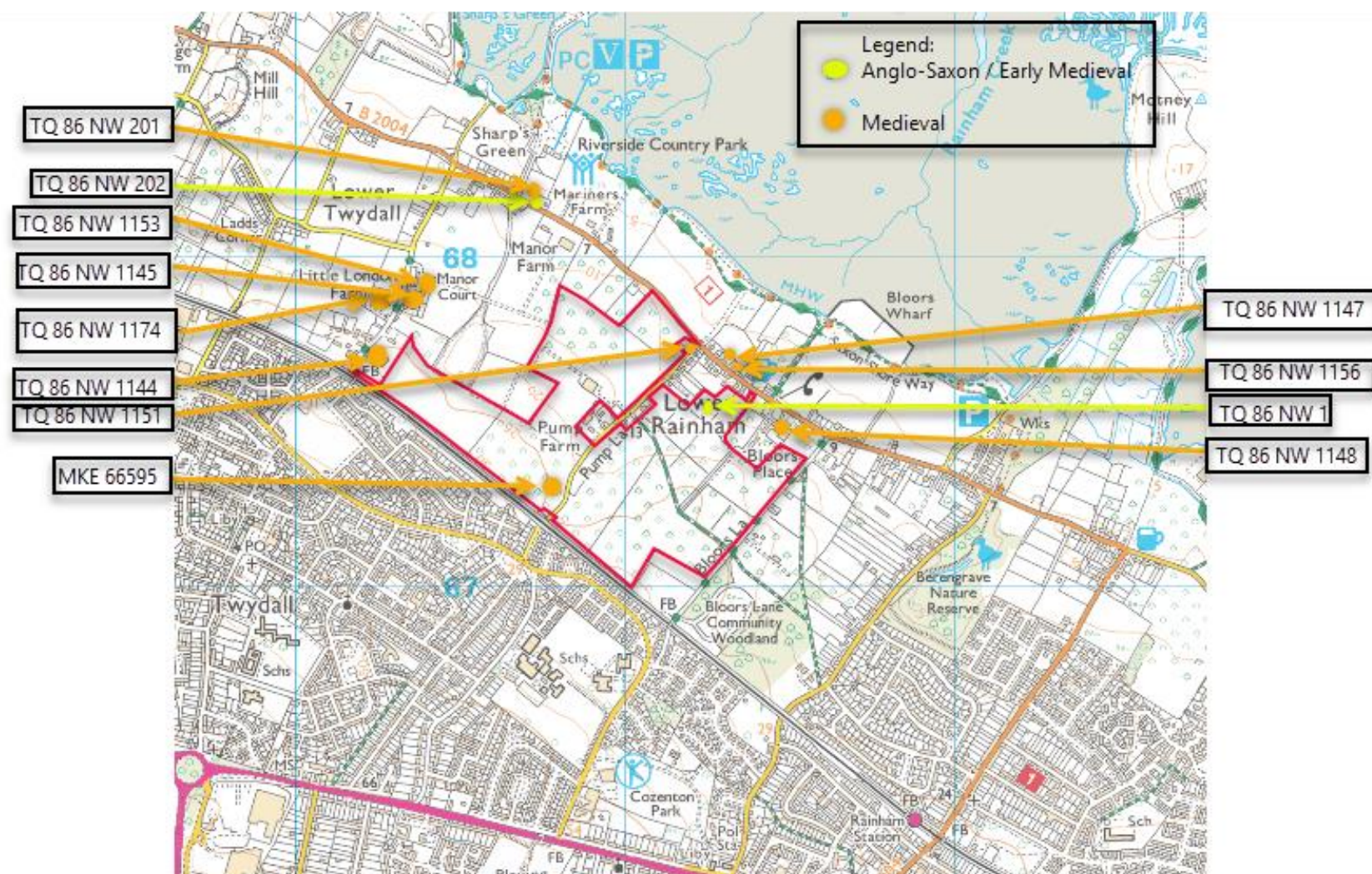


Figure 24: KHER Records split by period

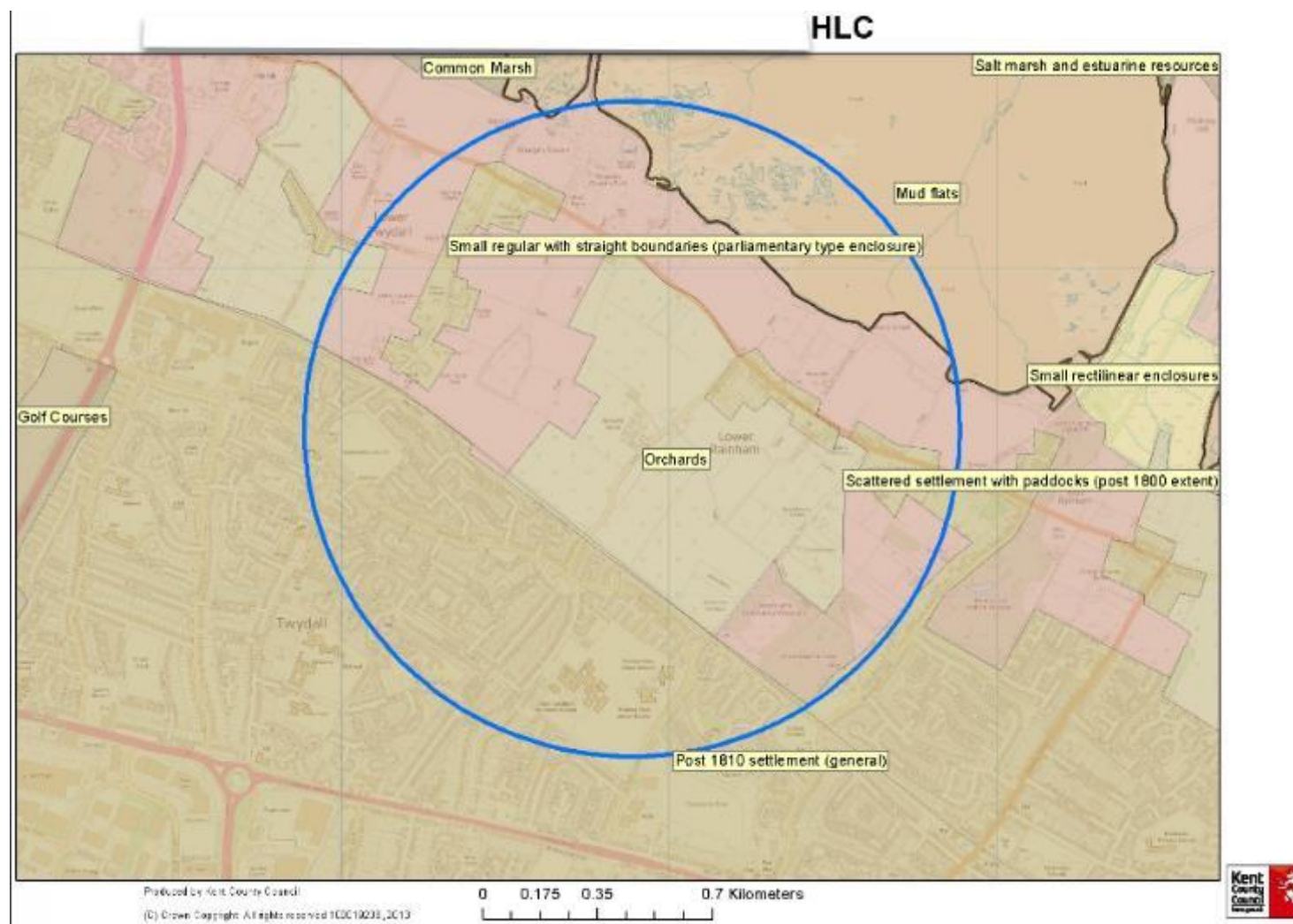


Figure 25: KHER Historic Landscape Character

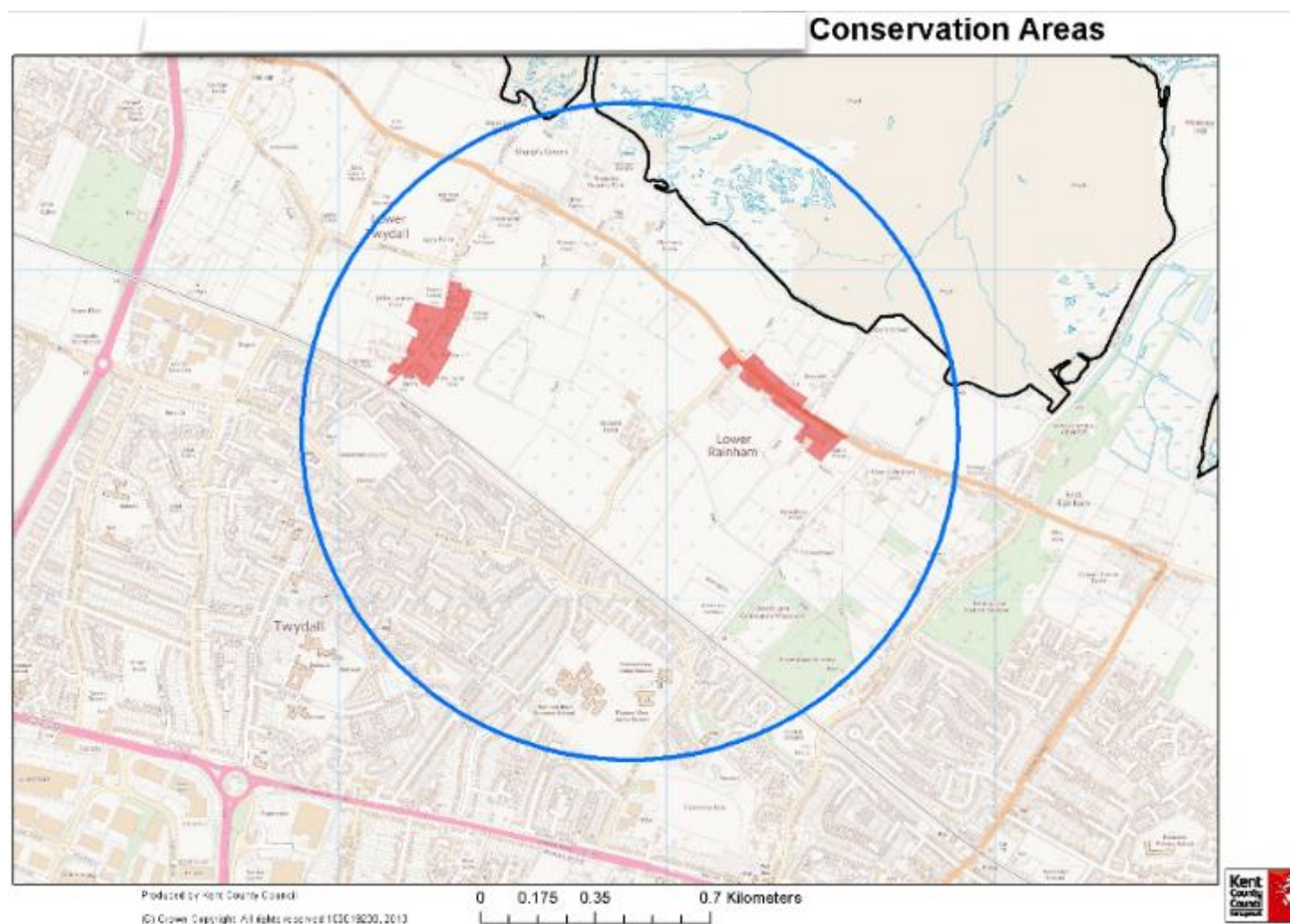


Figure 26: KHER Conservation Areas



Plate 1: 1940s. All at an altitude of 2.4km (Google Earth).



Plate 2: 1960 (Google Earth)



Plate 3: 1990 (Google Earth)



Plate 4: 2003 (Google Earth)



Plate 5: 2006 (Google Earth)



Plate 6: 2007 (Google Earth)



Plate 7: 2011 (Google Earth)



Plate 8: 2013 (Google Earth)



Plate 9: 2015 (Google Earth)



Plate 10: 2018 (Google Earth)



Plate 11: View of Chapel House from NE corner of the western half of the PDA (facing S).



Plate 12: View across the northern boundary of the PDA in the western half (facing NNW)



Plate 13: Looking across PDA from Northern boundary by Manor Farm in the western half (facing SW).



Plate 14: View the western half of the PDA towards Pump Lane in the western half (facing SE).



Plate 15: View across western half of the PDA towards Pump Farm in the western half (facing SE)



Plate16: View across to southern boundary from the southern end of the chalk pit in the western half (Facing SW).



Plate 17: View across the southern boundary of the chalk pit in the western half (facing E).



Plate 18: View across south western corner of the PDA (facing ESE)



Plate 19: View across the southern boundary in the western half (facing SE).



Plate 20: View across PDA towards Hoo from southern boundary from highest point on the western half (Facing N).



Plate 21: View towards Russetts by Pump Lane in the western half (Facing NE).



Plate 22: View across PDA showing one of the internal hedgerows in the western half (facing NW)



Plate 23: View across PDA by the western boundary of Russetts in the western half (facing NE)



Plate 24: Existing farm buildings at Pump Farm in the western half (facing N)



Plate 25: View towards Pump Farmhouse from PDA in the western half (facing S)



Plate 26: View across PDA from the entrance way at Bloors Farm in the eastern half (facing SW)



Plate 27: View across PDA towards the rear area of Bloors Place in the eastern half (facing NW)



Plate 28: View across the rear of the properties in the north part of the eastern half of the PDA (facing SE)



Plate 29: View across the eastern half of the PDA by Pump lane in the eastern half (facing SE)



Plate 30: View towards 328 Pump Lane along western boundary of the eastern half (facing SW)

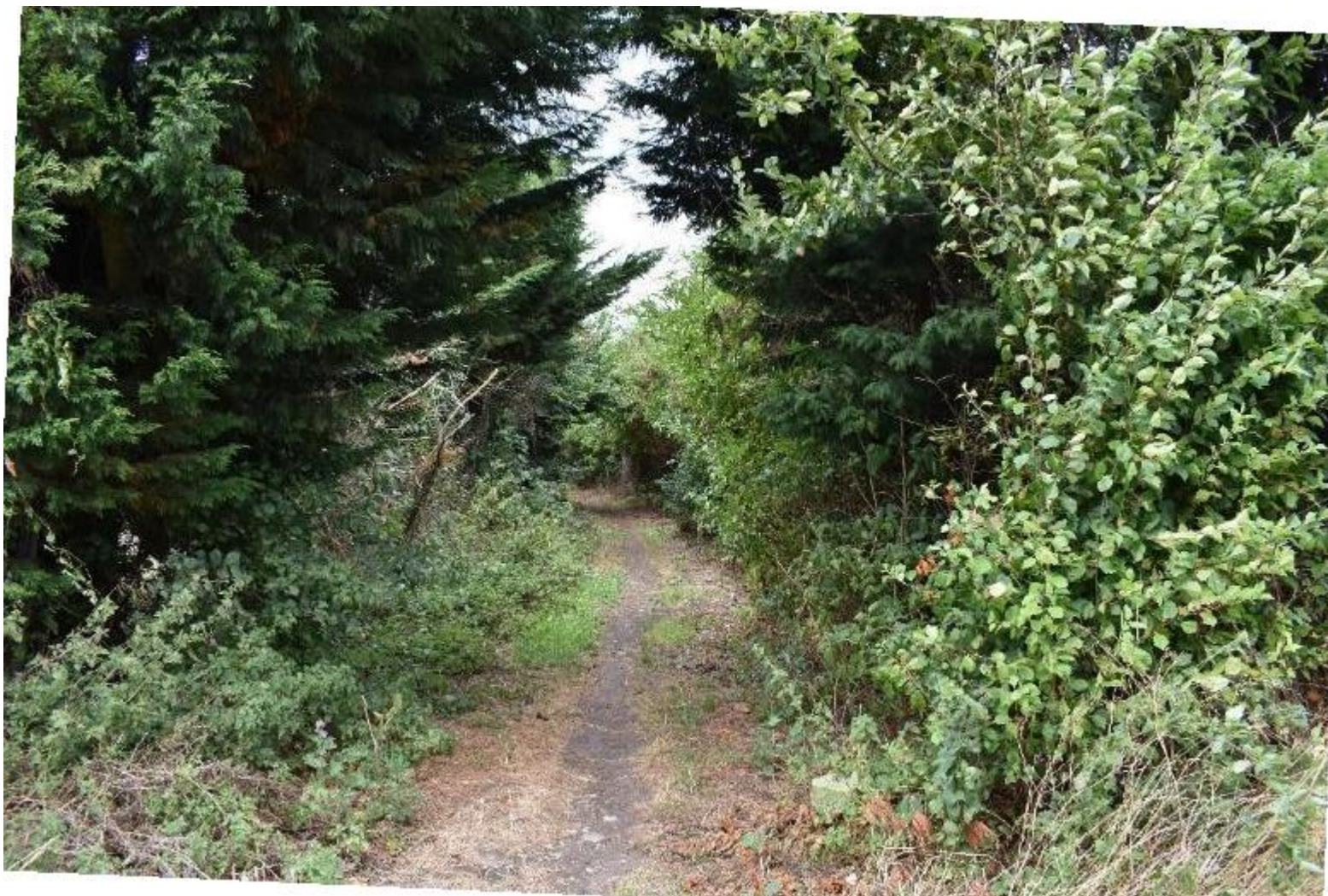


Plate 31: View along western end of the bridleway in the eastern half towards Pump Lane (facing NNW)



Plate 32: View along bridleway near Pump Lane in the eastern half (facing SSE)



Plate 33: View on houses on Pump Lane south of the bridleway in the eastern half (facing NNW)



Plate 34: View across the PDA in the eastern half from Pump Lane boundary (facing SE)



Plate 35: View across PDA from southern boundary in the eastern half (facing NE)



Plate 36: View by western boundary of the allotments (facing NE)



Plate 37: View of eastern boundary from Bloors Lane (facing SW)



Plate 38: View along bridleway from Bloors Lane (facing NW)



Plate 39: View of the northern boundary in the eastern half from Bloors Place (facing SW)